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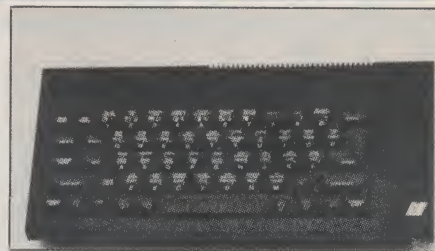
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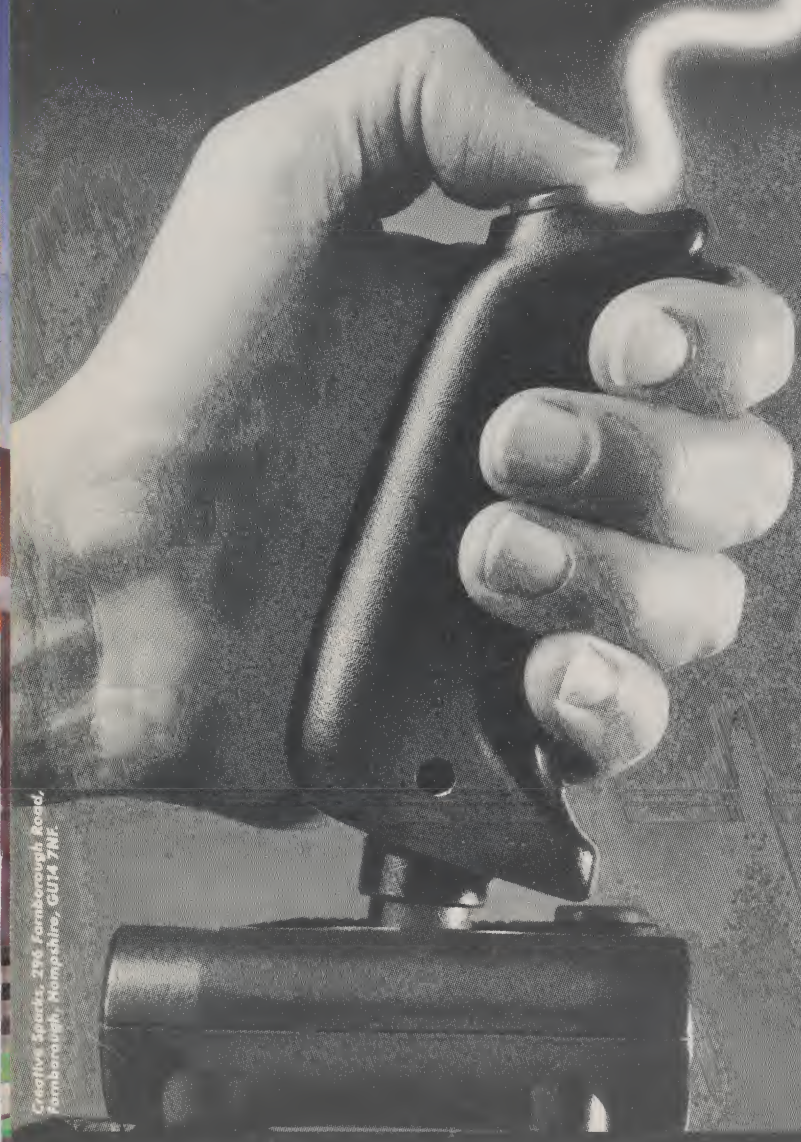


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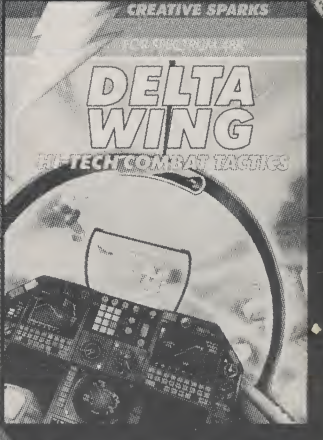
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**Creative Sparks, 296 Farnborough Road,
Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7NF.**

CHRISTMAS is fast approaching and we will soon be in the pantomime season once again. No-one who saw it will easily forget last year's hit production of 'QLinderella'.

It was a wonderful show, combining as it did elements of drama, suspense, humour and excitement. It was not without its sad moments too and provided a mixture of hope and disappointment for quite a few people. In the Sinclair version there was a reverse of the usual order of the plot. In the first scene QLinderella appeared at the Ball and made a stunning entrance. She was greeted by cries of admiration from the whole assembly. Prince Consumer thought her utterly charming.

Sadly, after only 28 days her finery turned to rags and she disappeared leaving only a silicon slipper behind. Nothing daunted, Prince Consumer pursued her eagerly but had some difficulty in finding her. And when he did get the occasional glimpse he could have been forgiven for wondering if this was the same ravishing creature he first saw at the Ball. Some of the town criers now began to pour scorn on her and hinted that perhaps she was not a real princess after all but a mere kitchen maid. . .

The tale is not yet ended and the curtain is just going up for the next Act. Will the story have a happy ending? Will Prince Consumer find and marry QLinderella? Or will he perhaps settle for one of her ugly sisters?

Oh yes he will!

Oh no he won't!

It is almost a year since the QL was launched and the machine is only now in the shops. We have seen a saga of slipped delivery dates, misleading information, poor support, poorly finished hardware, bugged software, flawed or missing documentation and to add insult to injury the company has already announced that supplies are likely to be limited for the immediate future.

For many computers, that would almost certainly have spelled total disaster.

However, few other machines have the advantage of having a Fairy Godfather like Sir Clive Sinclair. Whatever the difficulties may have been it is impossible to ignore the magic of a company with such a brilliant track record of low priced technical innovation and the proven ability to produce and sell computers by the million. For that reason alone, the QL remains a potential winner.

It is to be hoped that the production problems are now a thing of the past. There are QLs available over the counter and the company has said it plans to increase production to 50,000 units a month with further manufacturers shortly to join the existing source. With more than 20,000 QL owners already there is the beginning of a healthy user base.

Software is still limited in variety but the building blocks for the chart toppers of the future are already appearing—assemblers, disassemblers, editors and alternative operating systems. The Psion QL Chess program has already won this year's Microcomputer Chess Championship which augurs well for the quality of QL software.

Sinclair is keen to establish the credibility of the machine for serious use and has approached a number of leading business software producers—Digital Research, Quest, Sage-software, MicroApl, Scicon and others—who are expected to produce new languages, accounting and communications programs. The QL delays may, however, have discouraged some of the smaller producers who have been engaged in a slow bicycle race waiting to see if the computer really will take off. There are books by the bushel. Upwards of fifty QL titles have been published or are due to appear shortly.

From that point of view the prospects look good, but there are still a number of doubts. Eventual success will depend on the ability of the QL to find the correct niche in the market. Some people feel it falls uneasily between two stools. Enthusiasts might buy it as a cheap 68000 development system and for languages like BCPL and Unix which may soon be available. In general, though, it is probably a little expensive as a home/games machine.

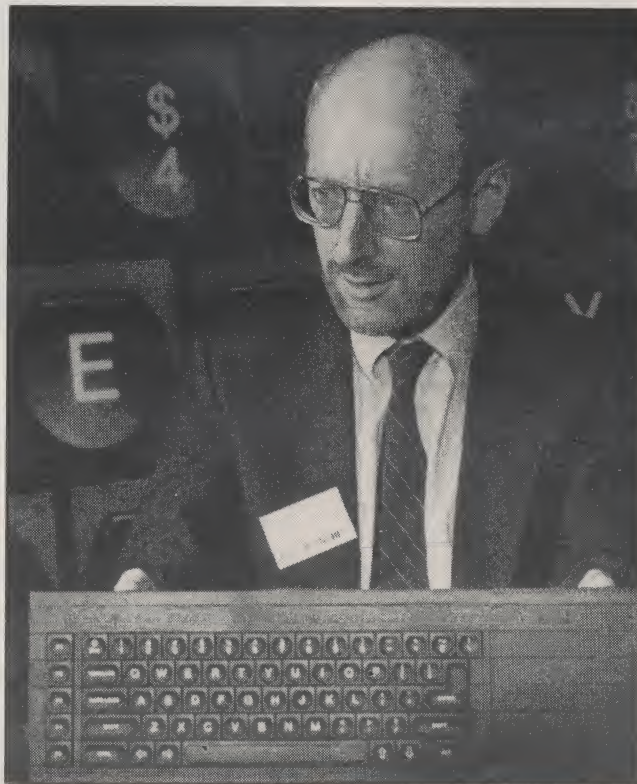
Then there are the small business users. The QL may offer features only available elsewhere at several times the price, but then business users are less impressed by the bells and whistles of advanced technology and more interested in boring old things like ruggedness of design, proven reliability of hardware, manufacturers back-up, widely available standard software and other similar unexciting considerations. Unlike hobbyists or home users they are not very tolerant of shortcomings.

That leaves the elusive professional user, the person who wants to use a computer for 'real work' as a professional tool. It may well be that, as with his earlier machines, Sinclair will create a new market. New users will not be prejudiced by the supposed shortcomings of the keyboard and the microdrives, or unduly worried by some of the odd omissions in the software, provided the machine is reliable and does the job.

The keys to success are good software—likely to be forthcoming—and a commitment by the company to the highest standards of quality control and customer service. Sinclair Research must be only too painfully aware of that after last year's little drama. The micro market is no longer the wide open field it once was and if Sinclair can not meet the challenge, there are others hot on his heels who will.

Mike Johnston

THE QL FAIRY TALE



PAINTBOX

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PAINTBOX is a must for every owner of a 48K Spectrum.

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With PAINTBOX there's no need for expensive hardware — why pay up to £150 for hardware when you can produce incredible picture and graphics with one cassette-based software package?

If you haven't seen PAINTBOX demonstrated you're in for a pleasant surprise!

For instance, PAINTBOX will enable you to draw practically anything on your screen and save it either as SCREEN\$ or as a machine code memory file to use in your BASIC or MC programs.

You wield enormous power over the graphics capability of your SPECTRUM — including the definition, storage and use of up to 84 UDG's — 4 times more than normal! A brief description of facilities are as follows:

UDG DRAWING BOARD for defining up to 4 Banks of UDG's including ROTATE, MIRROR, INVERSE etc.

UDG EDITOR for storing up to 84 UDG's for use in screen planning or in your other programs.

PRECISION PLOTTER. A high-resolution drawing board which allows you to draw anything on the screen. Facilities like CIRCLE, FILL, ARC, PLOT, DRAW, ERASE, OVER, DRAW RADially, INK, BRIGHT etc are included and easy to use!

SCREEN PLANNER gives you the best of both worlds! The combined use of PRECISION PLOTTER and your Banks of UDG's for highly detailed and precise screen graphics.

The program is complete with DEMO on side two of the cassette and a 28 page instruction booklet.

PAINTBOX can be used with Joysticks and is Sinclair Microdrive compatible.

SCREEN MACHINE

Instant Machine Code for graphics and text

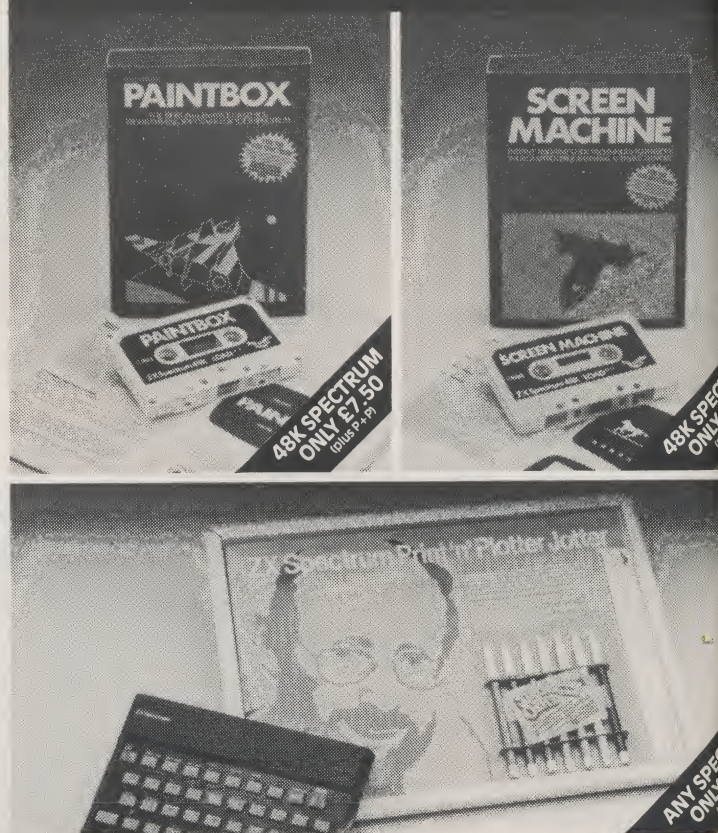
SCREEN MACHINE is a completely professional graphics utility to use with Paintbox (or any other graphics hardware or software).

It will allow you to manipulate your screen graphics and text in ways which will make your programs better and more memory efficient. For instance:

If you have produced a screen-full of superb graphics you can enlarge, reduce, recolour, flip screen, relocate your graphics to another part of the screen, superimpose one screen on another and perform all sorts of other wonders!

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HERE'S SIX WAYS TO IMPROVE



amounts of memory. Such items like compressing with or without attributes, saving thirds of the screen and multiple combinations of both are possible.

Never has machine code storage of graphics been simpler because SCREEN MACHINE automatically creates re-callable multiple screen files with a location catalogue so that you can add them to your programs!

SCREEN MACHINE also allows the user to program UDG's or text directly into machine code, so if your programs use a lot of text instructions or menus SCREEN MACHINE is going to save fantastic amounts of memory!

SCREEN MACHINE is a major graphics toolkit for the 48K SPECTRUM. It is completely menu-driven, Sinclair Microdrive compatible, and comes with instruction book and an unbelievable DEMO on side 2 of the cassette.

ADVENTURE PLANNER

A must for the adventure game fan

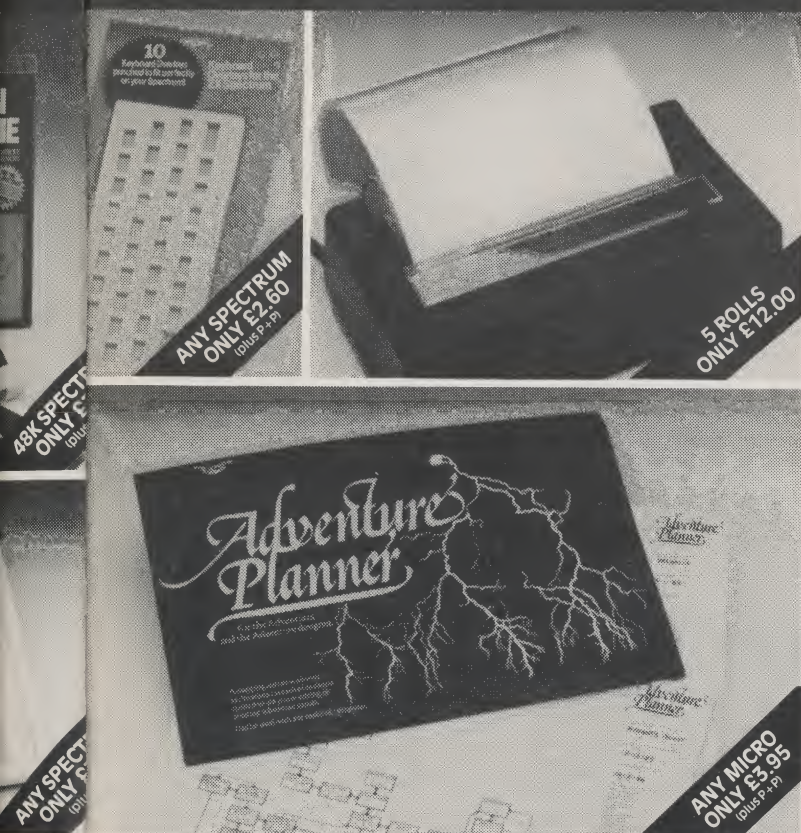
If you're an Adventure Game nut, Print 'n' Plotter's new ADVENTURE PLANNER is exactly what you have been looking for!

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Each page also contains 24 UDG planning grids (2400 per pad).

Consider also the fact that it is printed on Artist's Detail paper . . . thick enough to take any writing, drawing or colouring, yet thin enough to overlay onto a drawing and trace-off.

For pre-planning graphics, text, tabulation or anything to produce 'on screen', a Print 'n' Plotter JOTTER won't be beaten.

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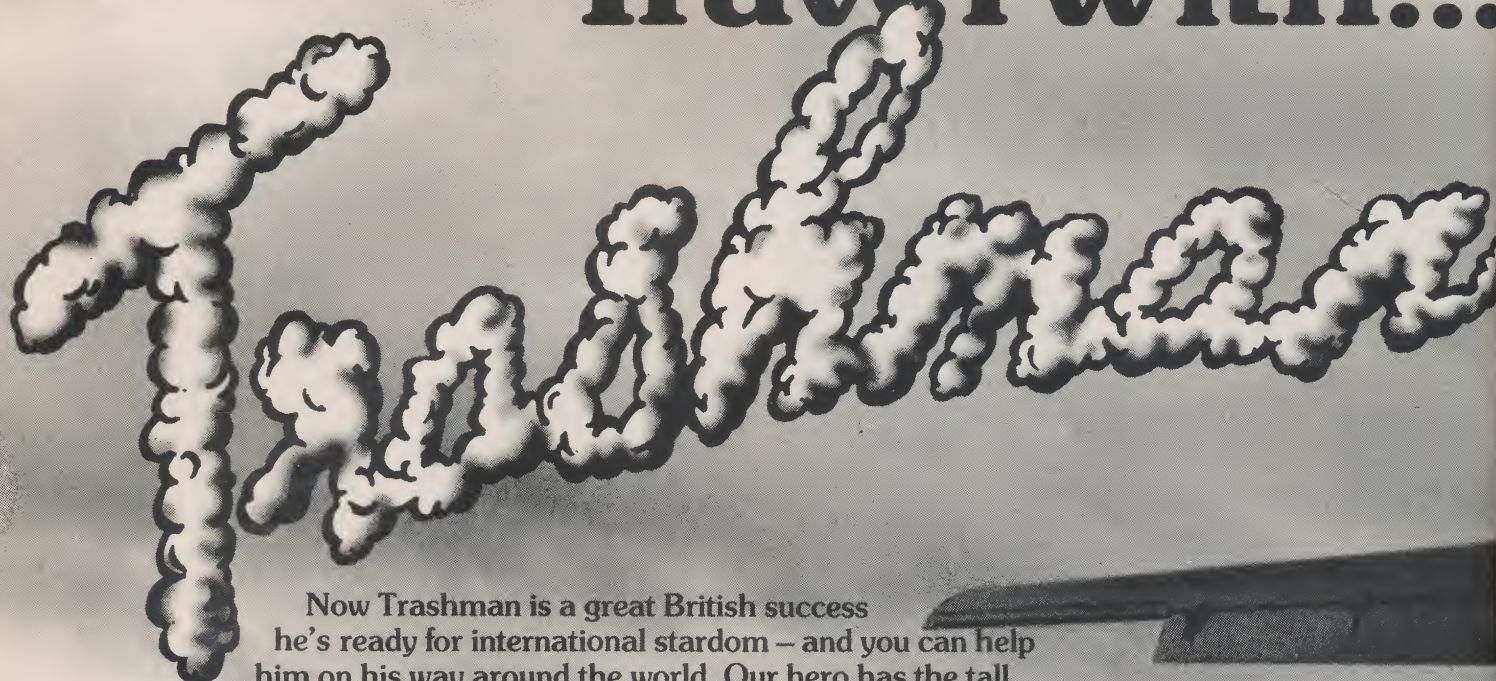
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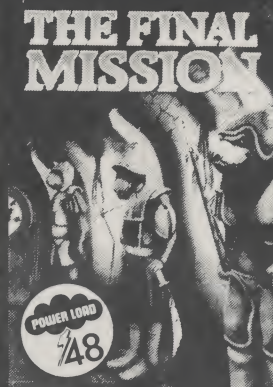
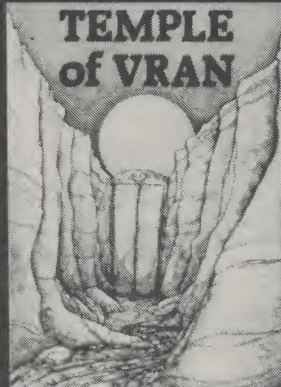
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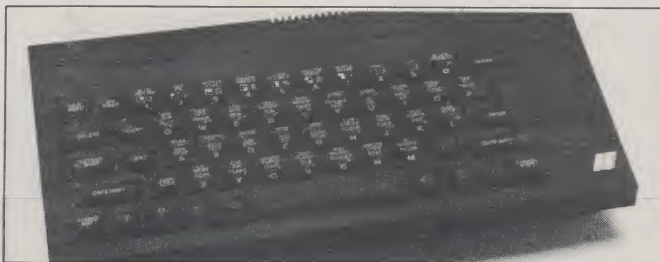
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New Spectrum launch

A SPECTRUM with a 'real' keyboard has been released by Sinclair Research. The new Spectrum sells for £179.95 and includes a new manual with colour diagrams and six items of software, including **Tasword 2**, **Scrabble**, **Chequered Flag** and **VU-3D**.

Sir Clive Sinclair says the product is aimed squarely at potential buyers of the Commodore 64. "Market research showed people thought the Spectrum was a better com-



puter, but preferred the Commodore 64 because of its keyboard".

The decision to launch the package without advance publicity was taken because of criticism over the handling

of the QL launch. "We wanted to make absolutely sure the Spectrum+ was in the shops when it was launched," says Sir Clive. "Otherwise nobody would have believed us".

Cashing in on Santa

SANTA CLAUS has been roped in to help Creative Sparks with its Christmas software push.

The company's new game **Special Delivery** for the 48K Spectrum turns the player into Uncle Santa who must be guided across the sky to drop presents on eager children. All the action is accompanied by what Creative Sparks calls suitable seasonal music.

Gordon Reid, product manager for Creative Sparks says: "Special Delivery makes an ideal Christmas gift, and games players will also be able to use it beyond the Christmas period, as it features four separate screens of play and fine animation graphics". If you want a dose of seasonal jollity then it costs £6.95 from high street stores. Ten out of ten for being quick on the ball but zero for lasting appeal.

DIY microdrives for the QL

ACCORDING to Sinclair Research it is theoretically possible to link Spectrum microdrives to the drive extension port at the righthand side of the QL.

The only problem is that

the cartridge access slot must face backwards, which means that the insertion of cartridges is made very difficult.

The cable also has to be reversed in order that the connection can be made to the third microdrive. That still does not guarantee that the connection will be good

enough for the ZX drive to work perfectly.

If you manage to get all the bits and pieces working then you can use the usual microdrive commands. The ZX microdrive will provide an inexpensive alternative to the QL microdrives which have yet to be launched.

Sabreman soldiers on

THE COMPANY which brought the world **Sabre Wulf**, Ultimate, has just released two sequels to the game.

The two new titles are **Underwulde** and **Knight Lore**. The first is similar to **Sabre Wulf** as it takes place in the same Underwulde with hundreds of monsters to fight in a wide variety of different locations.

Knight Lore, on the other hand, is what Ultimate describes as "the first step in the new generation of computer adventure simulation developments which represents the very pinnacle of software development on the 48K Spectrum".

The scenario is portrayed in 3D representation with sprite aliens and monsters. The **Sabreman** character has over 200 individual frames and Ultimate claims that he is "the most animated character in computing software history to date".

Viewdata ban on Labour

NO SOONER had Neil Kinnock opened the Labour Party pages on the Micronet 800 database and telesoftware service than an order was sent through to shut them off from public view.

Accusations as to who gave the order have been flying from a number of sources but Dr Jeremy Bray, Labour spokesman for science and technology, puts the blame on Sir George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, who issued a policy directive last year that sought to make sure that videotext services did not develop a party political bias after an attempt by the SDP to advertise through Prestel during the 1983 general election.

Dr Bray put out an official statement claiming "Sir George did not check on the legality of such discrimination. To classify religion and politics with prostitution and crime while purveying share

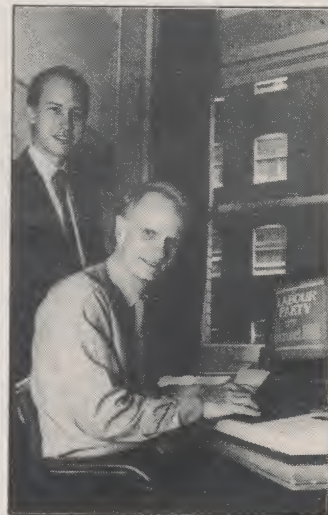
prices, exchange rates and the weather, betrays a singularly perverted view of society".

British Telecom denies that it got involved with the banning of Labour from the services public view pages. A spokesman for the company claimed that the Labour Party did not have an agreement with BT but with Telemap, an organisation which rents a large number of videotext pages from Prestel. It has to act in accordance with the Viewdata Industry Association and its practice of banning the use of pages open to the public to political parties or their viewpoints. The spokesman went on to say that it had been Telemap which had ordered the ban and that BT had brought no pressure to bear on the company.

Micronet firmly denies the claim and insists that the order came down through Prestel to Telemap. Meanwhile,

Dr Bray has written to Secretary for Trade and Industry, Norman Tebbit, to ask him to intervene in the dispute with BT.

He says that the pages on Micronet are important if the Labour Party is to continue its link with members using viewdata.



more news on page 13

Introducing the Sprint



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The Cambridge Prince

A LUXURY reception at London's Ritz Hotel marked the presentation of the Cambridge Award, co-sponsored by *Sinclair User* and Cases Computer Simulations, by Nigel Searle, managing director of Sinclair Research.

The winning entry **The Prince**, for the 48K Spectrum, was written by John Sherry who received a trophy and a cheque for £2,000.

The four runners up, Thomas Frost of Angus, Nicholas Holgate of Camberley, David Bark of Stranraer and Stephen Thomas of Luton, were presented with cheques for £250. Their programs, together with *The Prince*, are to be published by CCS.

Nigel Searle was pleased that *Sinclair User* and CCS sponsored the award and for "encouraging intellectually stimulating and entertaining games". He reminded the audience comprising national and computer press, television and radio representatives that the United Kingdom "had the highest penetration of home computer ownership in the world" and referred to the need to develop software to match the increasing power of home computers.



David Bark, Nicholas Holgate, John Sherry, Nigel Searle, Stephen Thomas, Thomas Frost.

Cheap is not always nasty

OWNERS of ZX-81s can now buy budget software, under £2.00, for their machines.

A new company called Pooter Games has joined the ranks of the budget software suppliers which include such salubrious companies as Mastertronic, Pulsonic, Atlantis and Virgin Games. Its programs will not be sold by mail order but will shortly find their way into high street stores. The £1.85 range includes **Handles**, a game for CB radio enthusiasts and **Binary Brains**, for those who want to know more about binary numbers.

The Spectrum budget scene also has a new member in the form of a company which modestly calls itself Omega, the last word in software. It is made up of several computer companies such as Anirog, Computer Rental Limited and Silversoft. Its members want to cause a stir with a product standard so high many software houses

would have released its first twelve games at a much higher price.

Its range of £1.99 games for the Spectrum include

Chambers of Horrors, **Pool**, **Corruption** and **Handy Andy**. Could this be the end of the software market as we know it?

Quiz fans raise £2100

THE CAMPAIGN to help Bellflower Software was handed over to the Radio Luxembourg disc jockey by £2,100 royalties for **Stuart Henry's Pop Quiz** from Baker and Mike Nolan.



Dreaming in competition

A WEEKEND in Paris for two is the prize being offered by Star Dreams for the first person to complete its new adventure **The Sandman Cometh**.

It is a bizarre game featuring dream sequences, each set with its own series of logical problems. The program was devised and created by the same person who wrote **Aural Quest** for the Strangers' last LP. It was written by a team of programmers in a one year period.

The game is packaged as a parody of a motion picture and opens with film-style credits and a loading screen which looks like the Board of Censors certificate.

Richard Hildrick, a 15-year-old from York was the lucky winner of a QL, first prize in a competition run by dk'tronics. He personally picked up the first prize at the company headquarters in Saffron Walden, Essex. The runners up were Andrew Fairholm, from Clifton, Rugby, Simon Harvey, from Kettering in Hants, and Mark Middleton of Morton in Lincolnshire.

The money has been raised by Bellflower and WH Smith from sales of the popular computer game for the 48K Spectrum which tests players' pop knowledge.

Stuart Henry suffers from the disease of the nervous system and the Multiple Sclerosis Society operates a research fund in his name. David Gordon, director of Bellflower, says: "Everyone who has bought the program so far has made a contribution to vital research into finding a cure for MS. We hope more people will take up the challenge of Stuart Henry's Pop Quiz so we can have more presentations".

more news on page 15

If you're involved with education, then you're involved with hi-technology and computers.

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Imagine bounces back

BANDERSNATCH, one of the Imagine mega-games, has surfaced.

Last seen heading off into the sunset with directors Ian Heatherington and David Lawson, the game has come back to life in the Sinclair Research stables. Heatherington and Lawson are doing their best to finish a QL version for Alison Maguire, the Sinclair software manager. She says, "The games have enormous technical and marketing potential. They are at once complex, challenging and very exciting and will be ideal for the type of QL user we envisage".

The programmers are working on a fee basis for Sinclair Research but all the royalties will go to Imagine creditors via the official liquidator, Christopher Chambers, who arranged the Sinclair resurrection of the product. He says that it offers "very significant potential to recover monies for Imagine's unsecured creditors".

According to Sinclair spokesman Julian Goldsmith the new mega-game is due for release in the first quarter of next year. It could be ROM based but, he says, it is more likely to be stored on micro-drive as it needs a substantial amount of memory — more

than 100K.

The final format of the game has yet to be decided. Goldsmith says, "We are giving ourselves as long as possible to get it right. That would mean a release in the early or middle part of 1985".

Bargain basement

BUDGET software house Mastertronic has taken over distribution of the former Imagine titles taken on by Beau-Jolly.

The deal is backed by £250,000 of TV advertising which will cover the British ITV network. Beau-Jolly is confident of reaching a target audience of more than 20 million viewers.

Distribution and advertising will focus on special Christmas packs of games. There's a six-pack for the 48K Spectrum and a four-pack for 16K Spectrum owners. Games will include established titles such as **Ar-**

cadia and **Alchemist** but some new games, such as **Cosmic Cruiser** and **BC Bill** will also be put into the packages.

Colin Ashby, a director of Beau-Jolly, says "Mastertronic got it right from the word go, and we are very pleased to be working with them. The market for budget games is large and growing larger, and we believe that some manufacturers are still failing to reach it. The fact that Mastertronic have sold well over a half a million games in what is supposed to be the quiet season demonstrates this".

Cottagers' viewpoint

A DRAMATIC development in graphics technique has been claimed in a recently launched game for the 48K Spectrum by new company Sterling Software.

Country Cottages, its first game for the Sinclair machine, uses landscape creation — a technique similar to that used in the **Beyond Lords of Midnight**, in which over 30,000 views of objects and places can be drawn using algorithms within the program.

Sterling, an off-shoot of reference book publisher Sterling Publications, claims that **Country Cottages** can draw infinite views of the surroundings with which the players are faced in this two-player strategy game.

After that the plot is much more mundane, being somewhat like *Monopoly* in which the purchase and sale of properties is important.

The package of releases for Christmas also includes the first in a series of adventure games featuring ace secret spy the Ice Man, in a plot called **Assignment East Berlin**. The next in the series is already at the planning stage and is called **Assignment Hong Kong**.

Willy misses Christmas rush

THOSE hoping that the sequel to Jet Set Willy will be released before Christmas are in for a disappointment as Software Projects does not intend to launch the game until the spring of 1985.

Matthew Smith and company director Alan Maton are still thinking about what should go into the game. Smith has some very definite ideas but only a few of them are printable. "Somewhere in the game we are going to have an Alice in Wonderland character". He says that there are some problems with that idea. "You can show a voluminous skirt in 16×16 pixels very well but you can't have any features".

The other reason for the delay is that Smith wants to include a hardware based add-on which will be of use to Spectrum owners even when

not playing the game.

Meanwhile Software Projects have launched a game called **Lode Runner**, which

is a levels and ladders game in which the player has to collect blocks from a screen which is re-definable.

HURG record winner



TOM DAVIES, winner of the Melbourne House HURG competition for the Spectrum is presented with a cheque for £2,500 by John Gilbert, deputy editor of *Sinclair User*.

The winning entry, written using the HURG games designer, features a character called Tim Drum who has to produce a record soundtrack using notes which he has created.

The idea, created by Davies, is to be sold by Melbourne House.

more news on page 16

Telecom software

BRITISH TELECOM has launched its own software house, Firebird, and its range of products includes six budget games for the Spectrum.

The company does not employ in-house programmers but buys software on a royalty basis.

The initial titles for the Spectrum include two arcade games, an arcade adventure and a war strategy program. The difference between Firebird's products and that of rival software houses is in its packaging. Firebird puts screen shots of games on the cassette insert so that potential customers will know what they are getting. Richard Hooper, Chief Executive of BT's Value Added Systems and Services says: "You can now judge a game by its cover. In a market where quality and prices tend to be variable and complaints of misrepresentation frequent, Firebird is setting new standards."

The first titles cost £2.50 each and Firebird sees that as excellent value for money. "Despite the pocket money price Firebird games will offer the same quality as some products costing twice as much. Firebird is committed to the home computer market and will deal only through established distributors."

Second-hand magazine

SELLING and buying micros or software is no longer a problem according to *Micro Mart*, a new fortnightly newspaper published by ECC Publications, which consists of advertisements and looks like a computer version of *Exchange and Mart*.

It is aimed at the two and a half million users of home computers, a third of whom say that they will upgrade to new machines within the next twelve months.

Micro Mart costs 35 pence and carries classified and display advertising for private and business sales. Its first print run was 70,000 copies and was backed by a £100,000 television, radio and press advertising campaign.

Barry Hazel, assistant managing director of ECC, explains how the company became concerned with the need to fill the niche in the magazine market. "Through our existing involvement in

Sinclair profits

THE YEARLY pre-tax profits for Sinclair Research are significantly less than expected.

For 1983-84 profits were £14.28 million whereas the previous financial year they were £14.03m. Company turnover, however, rose by 42 percent from £54.53 million to £77.69 million.

Sir Clive Sinclair, writing in the annual company report says that the low profit figure was largely due to the launch of major products such as the QL and the pocket television which 'added greatly to costs in the year but little to sales'.

He did have hope for the coming year. "Our Spectrum computer continues to gain in sales. Pocket television production is increasing and we hope to expand sales abroad next calendar year.

"Export sales have increased steadily and there has been rapid growth in the home market. Export sales are expected to increase as a percentage of total sales".

Looking into the future, something that Sir Clive is always doing, he stressed the company's 'strong technical leadership which we expect to enhance now that our ad-

vanced research laboratory, MetaLab, is established'.



Sir Clive Sinclair was to be seen clutching the QL for the inevitable photographs at the launch, held at Claridges, of two new guides for QL software, QL Quill and QL Easel.

The books written by Alison and Clare Spottiswoode, and Francesca Simon, are their first venture under their new company Blueprint.

The books are aimed at the first time user who has no experience of word processing and business graphics. Both books will sell at £7.95 and are published by Century Communications.

Computers save world

A COMPUTER capable of creative thought is the incredible claim put forward in a new book from Viking Press, a division of Penguin Books.

The Creative Computer, by Donald Michie and Rory Johnston, shows how it is possible for computers to create new knowledge in order to solve the major problems facing humanity such as disease, economic stagnation and international strife.

The authors' findings are based on a major new discovery which is only now emerging from the world's most advanced computer laboratories. It is based on the new technology of expert systems, computers that contain accumulated knowledge upon which they can make judgments and the ability of computers not just to make predictions but also to show reasons for doing so.

Issues within the book involve philosophy, religion, ethics, the arts and politics giving it a wide appeal to readers outside the computer field. It costs £12.95 and can be obtained from Viking Press, 536 King's Road, London SW10 0UH.



A wealth of free information is yours for the asking with the TTX 2000 Teletext adaptor.

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6	STARTREK	23	TUNNEL ESCAPE	39	DYNAMITE
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8	ATTACKER	25	CANNONBALL	41	DERBY DASH
9	GALACTIC OOG	26	OVERTAKE	42	SPACE SEARCH
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11	INVASIVE ACTION	28	SMASH THE WINDOWS	44	RATS
12	NOUGHTS AND CROSSES	29	SPACE SHIP	45	TANKER
13	BOOGLES	30	JET FLIGHT	46	PARACHUTE
14	PONTOON	31	PHASER	47	JET MOBILE
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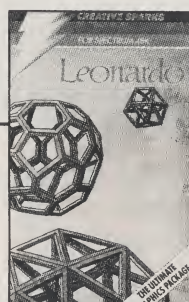
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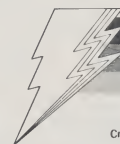
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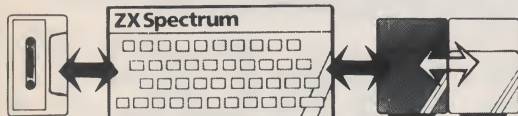
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A change of cursors

ALTHOUGH I AM an ardent follower of Andrew Hewson's Helpline articles his reply to Peter Groenewald is not entirely correct. It is possible to force a cursor change, and such changes can prove quite useful.

System Variable MODE (23617) can be POKEd with 1 to force a cursor change to E mode or 2 to produce G mode. The latter is of little practical value as it is just as convenient to use CAPS SHIFT 8 as G mode stays until cancelled.

Not so with E mode. To enter user-defined graphics bytes in BINary is helpful but tedious as it is necessary to go into E mode to produce the BIN token for each byte. This short routine will force an E cursor so only the B key need be pressed to generate the BIN:

```
1000 INPUT "How many udgs
(starting at A)?";n: FOR f=USR
"a" TO USR "a"+8*n-1:POKE
23617,1: INPUT i: POKE f,i:
NEXT f
```

Changing between L and C modes is quite easy under software control. The System Variable which goes under the cryptic name of MORE FLAGS (23658) is the key. Bit 3 holds 0 for L mode or 1 for C mode so POKeing with 8 (BIN 00001000) forces a C cursor. This can be very useful when checking responses in programs. For example, the rather clumsy line:

```
1000 PRINT "Press Y to play
again": PAUSE 0: IF
INKEY$="y" OR INKEY$="Y"
OR INKEY$=" AND " OR
INKEY$="STR$ " OR
INKEY$=" " THEN RUN
```

necessary to check all the possible responses to key Y, can be replaced by:

```
1000 PRINT "Press Y to play
again": POKE 23658,8: PAUSE 0:
IF INKEY$="Y" THEN RUN
```

as, with CAPS LOCK set the response must be "Y". Of course the user could cancel the C mode before answering but this would have to be a conscious act of sabotage and

such people deserve all the crashes they get. POKE 23658,0 will reset to the L cursor.

**Clyde Bish,
Clyst St. Mary,
Devon.**

You better believe it

I HAVE REACHED level 79 on **3D Cosmic Ghost Cock-erel**, for the ZX-Quantum-86. When you bang the rats on the head, I have found you score no points at all, unless you have fitted a dk'tronics 40 key full-moving keyboard with separate numeric keypad.

Please tell me why.

**Simon Godfrey,
Chesterfield,
Derbyshire.**

● *Your problem is to do with the non-standard 287-pin DIN connection. To correct the fault, solder a Megahype 3-way RS232 Q-drive Interface to the ninth pin. That will of course invalidate your guarantee.*

Please, more adventures

I AM A FAN of *Dungeons and Dragons* so my only complaint is there is not enough on adventure games.

Software Directory is a great idea. Before I buy a game I always look to see how many marks it got. Other than the one complaint, your magazine is number one. Keep up the good work *Sinclair User*.

**Alan Jones,
Wrexham,
Clwyd.**

Compiler in reverse?

IS THERE a program available on the market which will change machine code into Basic. Also, are you able to advise me of the code which will take you onto any part of **Jet Set Willy**?

**Richard Burnett,
Beverley,
North Humberside.**

● *There is no program which can translate machine code into Basic. Indeed, such a program would be impossible to write because of the nature of machine code, although it is possible to compile Basic into code. Even if there were, what would anybody want one for?*

The relevant POKE for Jet Set Willy, along with all sorts of other wacky routines for the game, can be found in the August issue of Sinclair User.

Turkey is no chicken

I WOULD LIKE to comment on your review of **River Rescue** by Creative Sparks. I think the game is worth more than a Gilbert Factor of three since in later levels planes, bridges and mines come into play which makes the game much more exciting to play.

**Colin Campbell,
Cardiff.**

Self-starter programming

CAN YOU tell me how to get programs to auto-run on the ZX-81?

I would like to add that everyone seems to complain about ZX-81s not working. I have had mine for almost two years and I have not had one complaint. That applies to

my friends who own ZX-81s as well.

**Mark Homans,
Leamington Spa.**

● *To make your ZX-81 programs auto-run, incorporate the usual SAVE command within the program, e.g. 900 SAVE "name". Type RUN 900, start the tape recorder and then press NEWLINE.*

Venetian connection

I AM AN ITALIAN boy and I would like to exchange my programs with anybody reading my letter. Send your list to: Scarpa Mauro, Via Giorgione 9, 30038 Spinea (VE), Italy, and I will answer you.

**Scarpa Mauro,
Venice,
Italy.**

Suffering Sabreman

I AM VERY impressed with **Sabre Wulf** from Ultimate but have found two problems which I cannot understand. Firstly there are the native warriors, who get on my nerves by being indestructible. I am always getting killed by them, and it puts me off.

Secondly, I have seen a map of the Sabre Wulf jungle and I cannot figure out why there are tracks which are cut off from the others. Is there any way to get into them as there are often totem poles and rings and diamonds there? I thought there might be a secret passage to get into them but unfortunately I cannot seem to find one.

**Adrian Ford,
Sheffield.**

Daley in defeat

DECATHLON, by Ocean, is a brilliant game and has excellent graphics, but is almost impossible to load. I have had nothing but problems and I am sure I am not the only one. You need at least half an hour to load it, and then it is not guaranteed to work. Ocean should improve the

loading.

By saying this I would not want to discourage anyone from buying it. When it works, it is the best game I have seen for the Spectrum.

**Peter Davis,
Cinderford,
Gloucestershire.**

more letters on page 24

Gilbert is innocent

STEVEN ROBBIE, in the September issue, complained that **Halls of the Things** was not worth a Gilbert Factor of 9, and that you needed six hands to play it.

I think the graphics are very good and smooth moving. The point of having so many commands and keys is that you pick the ones you think are the best to use. You do not use all of them. If you get tangled up with the keys, you can press '1', which pauses the game.

Also Steven thought that **Maziacs** was not worth a Gilbert Factor of 8. Has Steven tried level four a few times? If you complete that, it is probably because you got an easier maze — each one is different.

To top all of that, he complained that John Gilbert should be sacked. Do not worry, Gilbert, someone still supports you.

Suzanne Madison,
Gosforth,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Never forget the ZX-81

I AM WRITING to say how disappointed I am with ZX-81 Software Scene. This usually features only two games. I then looked at Spectrum Software Scene, which contained a satisfying eight games. In future editions could you please review a few more games pleased.

I also noticed in the September edition a small mistake in the program **Caves of Doom** for the ZX-81. In line 10 it reads "10 FOR X=16514 TO 16560". It should read "10 FOR X=16514 TO 16559".

Robert Tempest,
Castle Bromwich,
Birmingham.

● The amount of space devoted to ZX-81 software reviews is a direct reflection of the number of games we receive compared to Spectrum software. We would dearly like to review more, but can only write about what is being produced by the industry.

Theodora's fan club

I'M MISSING Theodora Wood's comments on educational programs. Why?

Why also are there not more educational programs for the Spectrum? It seems that the BBC can make them. That degrades the Spectrum almost to a toy.

Rosa Wieloely,
Bruges,
Belgium.

● Theo's many fans will be delighted to know she is still

alive and kicking. In recent months we have not received enough educational software to justify a full article, but will continue to review such programs in the Software Scene section of the magazine. There are certainly no plans for dropping the education content.

Subtle tip for bikers

I RECENTLY BOUGHT **Full Throttle** by Micro-mega. It is an excellent game but I seem to have found a bug in it. It is useful if you are in the tail of the field.

At the end of the last lap of the race when the word FINISH flashes on the screen, stop your bike just in front of the finishing line. Wait until the first of the other bikers appears on the screen, then accelerate over the line.

David Morgan,
Handsworth Wood,
Birmingham.

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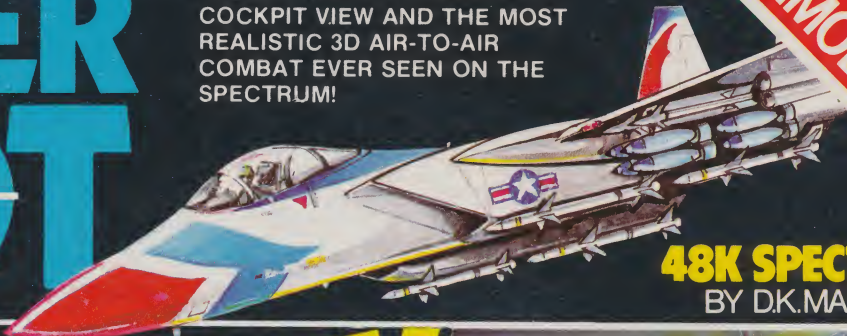
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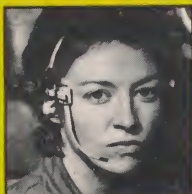
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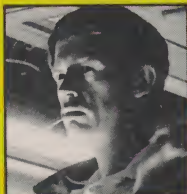
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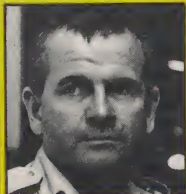
In space no one can hear you scream.



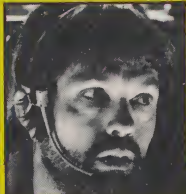
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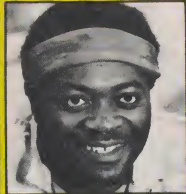
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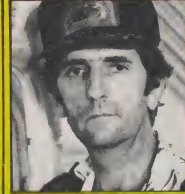
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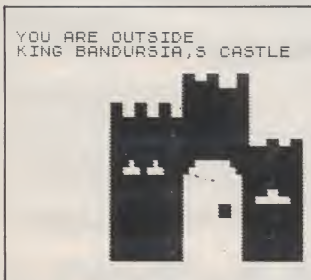
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Trouble in threes

TWO GRAPHICS adventures and a text-only adventure on one tape for the ZX-81 must represent good value of a sort, especially at only £3.20. The latest collection from Gavin Barker provides a reasonable introduction to adventure games, but is unlikely to fire the imagination of seasoned players.

The Challenge pits you against an evil knight in a mediaeval setting. You must equip yourself with the necessary weapons and armour, and seek out the challenger in his fastness.

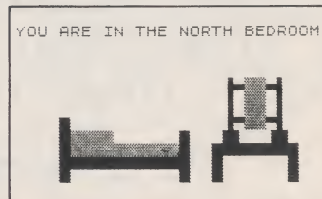
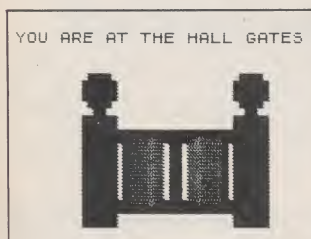
The graphics are simple block pictures of castles, bridges, temples and the like, and the text is brief and occasionally badly spelt. The route to success is intricate, although there are a number



of ways of achieving your goal, and all commands are drawn from a fairly limited vocabulary using standard two or three word inputs.

With over thirty-five locations and plenty of juggling with objects to be done — you are only allowed five at a time — it will take some time to work out your strategy.

Haunted House is written along similar lines, but in this case the graphics are rather better although the adventure itself is slightly less complex. Additionally there is a fight routine which en-



ables you to deal with Ghosts, Mad Axemen, or a retired hangman. What Albert Pierrepont is doing in an adventure game is not clear, however. You are also allowed to bribe the monsters if you have enough gold.

Both games include an interesting feature whereby if an object is already at a location then you cannot drop anything else there. That makes it all the more difficult to organise what you are carrying effectively, as you may have to backtrack a long way in order to find an empty location in order to drop such bulky and unwanted objects as a used match. It may not be very realistic but at least it

increases the complexity of the game.

The third adventure is a text-only offering called **The Black Staff**. The game is rather more humorous than the other two, and is set in the standard world of wizards and dragons. Your job is to regain possession of the staff of the title. The ancient piece of wood used to belong to an old wizard but was stolen by some dwarfs. The dwarfs were turned to stone through neglecting the daily care of the staff and you are admonished at the start of the program to watch out or the same could happen to you.

The vocabulary for the adventure is rather wider than that of the other two, and some of the puzzles are more complicated, but by and large the game is of only moderate difficulty and should not take too long to solve.

Taking each on its merits,

none of the adventures offers the kind of excitement of, for example, those from Artic or Carnell, but given that they are presented as a package at a reasonably low price, they do represent value for money.

The only real pity is that they were not written in machine-code, which would allow space for a considerably more sophisticated text interpreter and prevent the need for doing everything in FAST mode, thus causing the screen to flicker unpleasantly every time a key is pressed. That does not cause problems in the third adventure, but impairs the quality of the graphics in the first two, which would otherwise be much more pleasing.

Chris Bourne

ADVENTURE
Memory: 16K
Price: £3.20
Gilbert Factor: 6

Two digit exercise

SOME people find coping with hex-code and least significant bytes as easy as being sick on Watney's, but for every one of those hyperactive minds there are at least two humdrum souls who never even make it past binary numbers.

Binary Brains from Pooter aims to alleviate their misery by providing a primer in the theory of binary numbers, taking in octal and hexadecimal along the way. Once you have struggled through the primer, side two of the tape contains a mastermind-type game to see if you absorbed any of the material.

The information in the primer is accompanied by questions. The first set of questions is very boring, as it follows a fixed pattern. That is no doubt deliberate, in order to drum home the basic patterns formed by numbers,

but may convince the less sensitive that number bases are as dull as they always thought. After the first round, the second asks more random questions.

The game asks you to guess at a number by entering a decimal number. The computer converts your guess into binary and compares it with its own number, and then tells you which digits you got correct. In order to win, and avoid the humiliating nickname of 'Decimal Brain' you will have to do a fair few decimal-binary and binary-decimal conversions in your head.

There is an element of fun in the program, but the first part is stodgy and the game is either trivial or impossible, depending on whether you understood the primer or not. There has to be a more exciting and painless way of get-

ting across the necessary information. Like reading a simple book, perhaps?

Available from Pooter Games, 24 Parsloes Avenue, Dagenham, Essex.

Chris Bourne

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Price: £1.85
Gilbert Factor: 5



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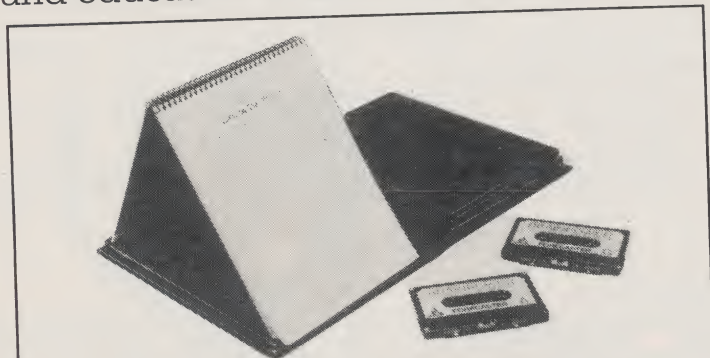
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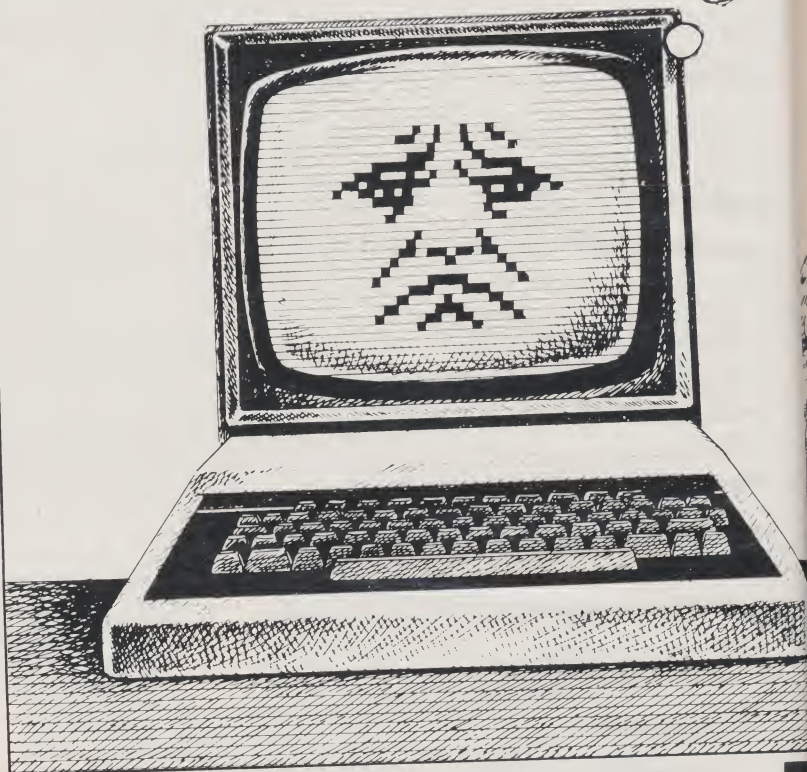
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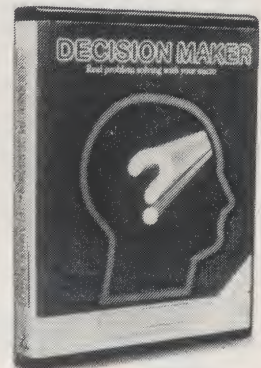
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Rubbish round the world

OBSESSED with rubbish after a lifetime of emptying the bins of suburbia, Trashman, that Napoleon of garbage, is off to foreign parts to teach the world a thing or two about litter.

Travel With Trashman sets our hero the mission of flying to various famous tourist spots to deal with the rubbish problem. They include collecting roses from a Spanish bullring, coconuts from a Samoan beach, and secret papers fluttering from the windows of the KGB offices on the Red Square.

Trashman was greatly admired for its superlative graphics, but unfortunately the sequel does not match the earlier program in that respect. It is true that the thirteen screens are all completely different, whereas **Trashman** was built around various streets using the same few houses in different configurations, but there are too many occasions where colours flicker and change messily. Were that not the case, the graphics would be excellent, but as it is you are forced to conclude that New Generation has overreached itself slightly in designing screens too complex.

That does not, however, make the game any the less addictive, and on that score **Travel With Trashman** is a worthy successor to the original. You start with a fixed sum of money, with which to buy a ticket to a variety of destinations. The money is replenished according to your success in clearing up the rubbish at each location. That allows the player to try at least three screens immediately, even though unable to complete them. It also requires some tactical thinking from the more experienced player, in order to travel as cheaply as possible while still visiting all the locations.

As ever, New Generation has included its own style of

humour in the game, not only with the visual gags about what constitutes foreign rubbish, but also with comments on the screen. The comments occur when Trashman bumps into the locals while attempting to do his job, such as tangling with French waitresses at a Parisian cafe, or upsetting the efficient service at the Munich beer festival.

Most of the humour is based on excruciating language jokes, such as 'Gettenze artz a vay' in Germany. By and large, the jokes are inoffensive, although more likely to produce groans than laughs. However, the scene in Benares, where Trashman has to collect the sandals of the faithful as they immerse themselves in the Ganges, is rather more disturbing. Apart



from the concept of making fun out of religious beliefs, which also occurs at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, the line 'Hurry curry Trashman' is at best puerile and at worst offensive. If that was the best the company could think of, it should have left the screen out altogether.



If you are impervious to that sort of humour, and do not expect miracles of graphics programming, you will find the game great fun to play and highly addictive. There is a considerable range of difficulty in the various screens, and although the mechanics of picking up litter remain the same, you will have to change your tactics to suit each particular situation.

It is a pity, therefore, that New Generation could not have taken more care with the graphics and humour.

Chris Bourne

TRAVEL WITH TRASHMAN

Memory: 48K

Price: £5.95

Joystick: Kempston, Sinclair, Cursor

Gilbert Factor: 7

Buzz on the grapevine

BUZZ OFF from Electric Software is a fruity little program starring Bertie the Bee whose longing for sweet ripe strawberries and other assorted fruit gets him into a lot of trouble. He enters the Enchanted Orchard where his heart's desire hangs temptingly. Little does he know that a large spider is waiting for a wee bite too.

You must manoeuvre the bee around the screen collecting pieces of fruit as they appear. Once a piece has been eaten a portion of spider's web takes its place. If Bertie touches any part of the web

down comes the nasty arachnid to collect his own lunch.

There are ten levels. In the first no web segments are visible but thereafter the spider will have spun bits of web to hinder Bertie in his task. As Bertie only moves in a straight line — bees do don't they? — getting round the screen is very difficult and the game requires large doses of concentration and care. The graphics are well-drawn, though necessarily limited to the bee, the spider and the fruit. The spider is distinctly menacing though Bertie looks rather bumbly.

This is the sort of arcade game you'll either adore or detest. Bertie's job is hard and there is no zapping or violence on the player's side. Skill and judgement are needed for success and the game concept is limited to the one task. **Buzz Off** is a good representative of this type of fruit game but runs the risk of repetition after a while.

Richard Price
more software on page 34

BUZZ OFF

Memory: 48K

Price: £4.95

Joystick: Kempston, Sinclair

Gilbert Factor: 5

A mouse with a mission

PENFOLD would certainly have approved of his rodent pal's adventures in **Dangermouse in Double Trouble**, from Creative Sparks.

It is a simple tale of terror in which the evil Baron Greenback, the turtle who is always trying to land Danger and Penfold in the soup, decides to create an Android Dangermouse. There are three episodes, reminiscent of the television series, in which

you have to get the terrible twosome through to the computerised robot factory.

The first screen shows Dangermouse in his aerocar under attack from robots which must be shot by musical notes. As each is shot the score increases and the display showing you and Greenback in a tug of war changes so that you are winning the struggle. Every robot which hits you makes the turtle give

an extra pull, which takes you further from your goal.

The jungle scenario of screen two, in which you have to jump on a crocodile and avoid the big cats and monkeys, leads to the final confrontation. Here Dangermouse must extinguish all the lights in the power matrix to destroy his double while avoiding Penfold who is being chased by Nero.

The game should keep any ageing youngster entertained for hours and the only danger

is that the real youngsters will not get a look-in.

Dangermouse in Double Trouble would make a great Christmas present. We will certainly be asking Santa for future adventures starring the intrepid hero.

John Gilbert

DANGERMUSE IN DOUBLE TROUBLE

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Joystick: Kempston, ZX,

Protek, Fuller

Gilbert Factor: 8

City of the undead

MOVING in the same direction as the film industry, Quicksilver has made the horror quantum leap from giant ants to zombies. Following the trail blazed by **3D Ant Attack**, the company has now released **Zombie Zombie**, using the same softsolid technique which popularised the former.

Softsolid is a means by which a true 3D perspective is built up using 'solid' cubes to form structures, behind which you or the monsters lurk. The landscape is a ruined city, many times larger than the screen, which may be viewed from any of four directions, thus enabling you to see behind the walls.

You have a small helicopter, casting the now fashionable shadow when aloft, which can pick up and redistribute the bricks of the city. That enables you to cut off or channel the zombies to a suitable killing ground.

Destroying zombies is much more difficult than killing ants. The only apparent way of doing it is to lure a zombie up a set of steps and over a precipice. You are capable of surviving the drop, but the zombie goes splat and leaves a small red puddle.

The game is less playable than **3D Ant Attack**, despite the welcome provision of joystick options. Whereas the ants used to swarm in large numbers around you if you

stood still, the zombies are difficult to find. That, coupled with the enormous difficulty in destroying them, makes it more fun to potter around designing buildings with the helicopter rather than get on with the game.

Chris Bourne

ZOMBIE ZOMBIE

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Joystick: Kempston,

Sinclair, Cursor

Gilbert Factor: 7



Business not pleasure

THE MOST SENSIBLE motive for buying **Hare-raiser** is the sincere need to get rich.

The sole aim of the program is the discovery of a Golden Hare somewhere in the game landscape. Do not assume you are getting a fancy version of Kit Williams' *Masquerade* with complex

graphics and a vast expansive plot.

The 'game' consists of a number of lacklustre, stark and simple screens depicting the countryside, with an occasional hare bouncing around and then disappearing. At the bottom of each of those thoroughly dull pictures appears an obscure

phrase which may or may not help you to find the hare — or your £30,000 in lieu.

If you decide to persist with the puzzle you will still have to buy a second program before completing it.

The cassette insert provides details on how to enter. The only instructions on screen tell you to follow the hare with cursor keys. There seems to be no evidence of the richness of the original book.

Quite honestly, it is rather difficult to understand why this program was produced at all, though cynics may draw their own conclusions. Me, I'm going to zap a few aliens instead.

Richard Price

HARERAISER

Memory: 48K

Price: £8.95

Gilbert Factor: 3



Whirlybird warfare

YOU MAY HAVE experienced any number of flight simulation programs in which you take a single-seater bi-plane up into the wild blue yonder. Now for something completely different.

Combat Lynx, from Durrell, is not as tame as the programs from Psion or Protek. You can hover, dip and rise in a battle-worthy helicopter, bombing the enemy aircraft gliding like sitting ducks into the range-finder and which can be despatched quickly with an air-to-air missile or rapid fire from one of your machine guns.

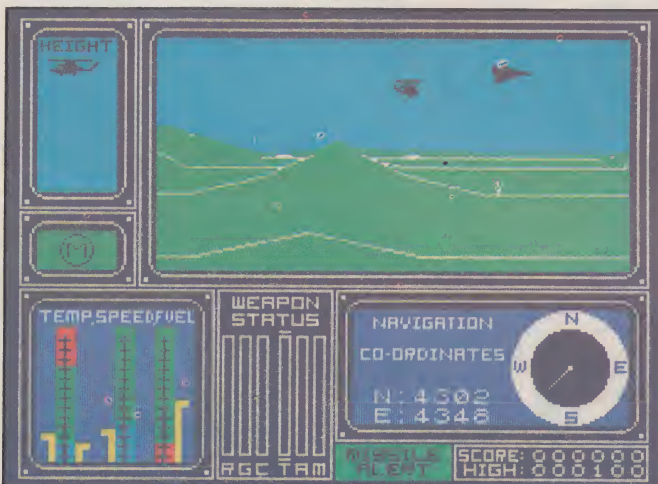
Despite what you might be led to believe the game is about defence and not offence. You must defend three of six ground bases, making sure that the enemy does not get to them on foot or in the air.

Once you have equipped

your machine with something from the choice of missiles and guns, using the educational schematic plans of the helicopter, you can start the game and launch into a combat zone represented in 3D. The helicopter representation is only adequate but the shifting hills and dales over which it flies give

the necessary realism to what is a relatively true-to-life battle simulation.

The game is too much of a simulation. Beginners will find it difficult to get anything within their sights and flying the helicopter without an enemy to hound you will prove that **Combat Lynx** is for the dedicated performer



who likes to impress friends with displays of dexterity at the keyboard. Arcade gamers might find it tedious because of the lack of immediate excitement. If, however, you are a level-headed player who likes to take time in developing skills **Combat Lynx** will pay off.

John Gilbert

COMBAT LYNX

Memory: 48K

Price: £8.95

Joystick: Any programmable
Gilbert Factor: 8

Test for motorists

STOP. Taking your driving test? Now there is a program to test your ability and help you learn.

Highway Code is made up of five sections each containing approximately 30 questions on motorways, signs giving positive orders, warning signs, general signs and negative order signs. Each question has multi-choice answers some of which are very amusing, together with clear colour graphics of the road signs.

To gain access to each set of headings you must keep reloading the tape and stopping. Unfortunately, the program can be unfriendly at times as it does not always instruct you where to stop.

The second side of the tape contains a demonstration with questions on the traffic light sequence and a demonstration only of the procedure at a level crossing.

Highway Code is produced by Learning Systems to 'complement the HMSO booklet *The Highway Code*', and I suggest you treat it as such. The tape is instructive for experienced drivers and learners alike, but it is not as comprehensive a guide to the highway code as the HMSO version.

Colette McDermott

more software on page 38

Talking of Tinker Bell

BOOKWARE seems to be the up and coming style in adventure these days.

Hodder & Stoughton have entered the field with a rendering of JM Barrie's *Peter Pan*, a much loved classic. The program was written by Soft Option and is an interactive adventure with graphics. The action follows the book closely.

All the usual characters show up and you will have a tough time avoiding Hook

and his villainous crew, the crocodile and the multitude of dangers in Neverland. Descriptions are full and the atmosphere is improved by the finely drawn graphic screens. Those are animated in the sense that some motion will be included in the picture. The children are shown flying across the sky, shark fins cut the water in the bay and puffs of smoke will rise from the chimney on the little house. The graphics are

very attractive but do take a little time to draw. If you are impatient the pictures can be turned off.

Peter Pan has most of the standard adventure features though it is not too good at understanding abbreviations. The characters move quickly around the landscape and it can be quite an effort to keep up with some of them. The intrepeter is not as obviously sophisticated as *The Hobbit's*.

Nevertheless, the game is well produced and should have a strong appeal to fans of the boy wonder and his band of lost adventurers. It is also nice to know that Barrie's royalties will be passed onto Great Ormond Street children's hospital. *Peter Pan* should make a good Christmas present.

Richard Price

PETER PAN

Memory: 48K

Price: £9.95

Gilbert Factor: 6



Highway Code

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Gilbert Factor: 6

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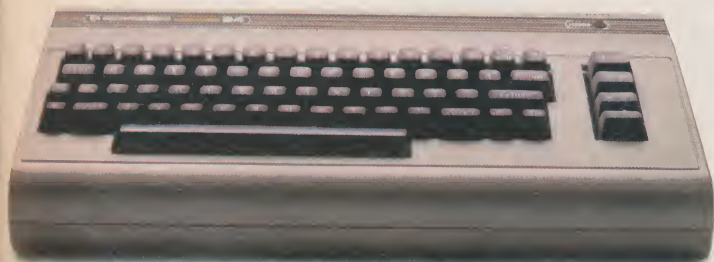


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Battle of the tanks

IT WOULD have been better if Atari had not given its permission to Quicksilva to produce **Battle Zone** as the game is no better than the original arcade version. Many companies at least try

than the Quicksilva version and the action is smoother but the tanks, spaceships and flying saucers move faster than your gun sights which will cause a problem if you are lucky enough not to have

Quicksilva version so at least you can use the cassette insert if you need reminding about controls during play.

Neither of these games have much to recommend them except that you do not have to pay 50 pence a time to play in an arcade. If you are after classic original arcade simulations then both games are good buys. If you want excitement from your computer then just pass them by.

John Gilbert



to add a new element to such games or put something extra into the graphics.

If by now you have not heard of the game the object is to move your tank around a landscape in which other tanks, space craft and flying saucers are on the prowl.

The bare instructions, found in the game and not on the cassette insert, tell you to hide behind objects which are littered around so that the enemy cannot see you before you make your move. The movement of your tank is difficult to master as the tank is on tracks. If you press the lefthand side of the keyboard the left track moves forward, shifting the tank right, and if you push the righthand keys the tank moves left. Time to reach for the Kempston joystick.

Forward movement shows the clumsiness of the 3D graphics which are inferior to the original. Outlines crack up, objects jerk when they move and missiles on target do not always score a hit.

While no better than Battlezone the Real Time Software **3D Tank Duel** does have a coloured landscape, the former being only green and black. The standard of graphics is slightly better

played the game before.

The instructions and key layout are better than the

BATTLE ZONE

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Joystick: Kempston

Gilbert Factor: 5

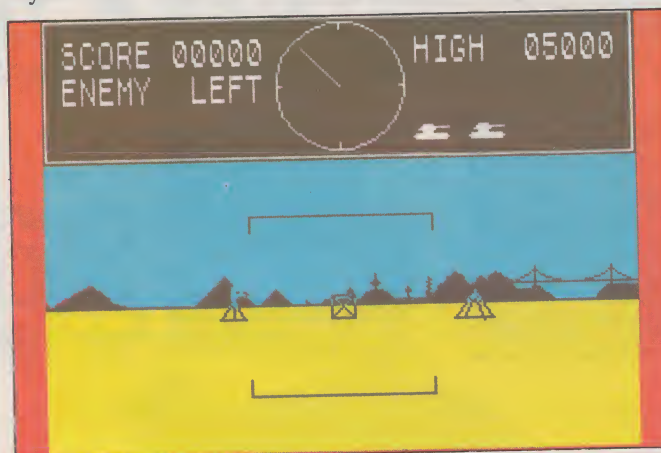
3D TANK DUEL

Memory: 48K

Price: £5.95

Joystick: Kempston, Sinclair, Cursor

Gilbert Factor: 6



Credit for simplicity

FUNNY isn't it? Sometimes the games with the most simple of concepts can give just as much pleasure as programs of great complexity.

Tiler Tim by Microwish asks you only to move a grinning face across a grid pattern on the screen, avoid a deadly spider who dogs your tracks and occasionally stop another ghost-like character from undoing your good work of turning each small square into a different colour.

It is a cross between a painting game and Pacman,

though there aren't any gobblers or killer ghosts. You move up a level after all the small squares have been changed and the action is progressively more difficult.

The graphics are bright and cheerful in almost fluorescent shades. Tim, the grinning face, zips across the screen at a fair pace making a noise like a geiger counter gone bananas.

No great strategic skills are necessary as the only real qualification to play is a quick eye and an even

Have Tardis will travel

KNOCK, KNOCK, Who's here. The Doctor's back, in search of **The Key to Time**.

This new text adventure from Lumpsoft features the veteran time traveller and many of his oldest enemies, battling it out through time and space. Davros, Daleks, Cybermen and fellow time-lords all show up as you steer your Tardis through the ages.

With the aid of a timescanner you must discover the scattered pieces of the great key and presumably save the universe into the bargain. Before you can begin the quest you will have to learn how to operate the Tardis.

Addicts of the TV series will find themselves in a well-known environment but the program is very friendly and will give considerable help to those who are less familiar with the bumbling doctor.

The program is responsive and versatile whilst the riddles are by no means obvious. It will get you zipping back and forth through time like nobody's business.

The Key to Time is good-humoured, well written and a joy to play.

Richard Price

THE KEY TO TIME

Memory: 48K

Price: £5.95

Gilbert Factor: 7

TILER TIM

Memory: 48K

Price: £5.95

Joystick: Kempston, cursor, joysticks.

Gilbert Factor: 6

Making the best of a bad night

YOU ARE a Wally, trapped in a nightmare in which familiar objects turn on you as you desperately try to escape from the manic dreamscape. All you have to do to wake up is find the alarm clock.

According to **Pyjamarama**, an hilarious arcade adventure with stunning sprite graphics, a Wally's idea of a nightmare means being hit by roast chickens, bowled over by spinning dinner plates, attacked by an astral machete, or buzzed by revolving saws. After all, that is what makes a Wally.

In order to reach the alarm clock you have to travel through rooms in which your wildest fantasies are acted out. The ceiling in one room is made up of a gigantic space invader game in which you must blast the invading aliens.

On your travels you must take time to pick up objects which may or may not be useful in the completion of your quest.

A variety of objects dog your movement but the secret passages, found on the ground floor within barrels, should speed you on your way. Bouncing upstairs and sliding down the bannisters will also bring the object of your quest nearer.

Once you have dodged the chicken bombardment, the flying scissors and the falling books you are beset by ghosts in the cellar. Some of the objects are not so familiar — not even Wally could expect a magnet under the table or a rocket in the hall.

The action, plot and graphics of **Pyjamarama** from MikroGen are great. This Wally is a winner.

John Gilbert

PYJAMARAMA

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Gilbert Factor: 8

Wizard shenanigans

MOST adventurers will find themselves at home in the world of **Kentilla** a new mixed text and graphics game from Micromega.

Caraland is a place of magic, strange beings and heroes. A vile wizard, Grako by name, rules from his dark tower and spreads evil and destruction abroad. He possesses a moonstone, the source of his power and unless he can be defeated he will become undisputed ruler of Caraland.

Your role is, naturally, that of the budding hero and you must explore the scorched wastelands, caves and forests

to find the means to defeat Grako. Urga-mauls, the local orc equivalents, will treat you with scorn and violence and you may be able to get help from Elva, a creature or person who will follow you rather like Thorin does in **The Hobbit**.

The overall plot is familiar and takes bits and pieces from many adventure sources. Indeed, Velnor himself — remember Velnor? — gets a mention in the credits.

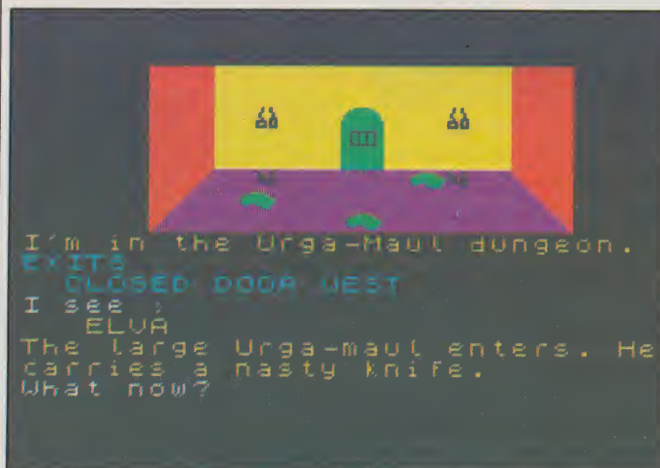
The insert tells you straight away that the game is devious and gives little clues as to how best to progress in Caraland. The game is de-

scribed as interactive and the varied beings will react to you in quite understandable ways. The amiable cave-dwellers — rather ponderous cavern dwellers — will treat you amiably until you attack and will then go all out to slay you.

Speaking to characters may get results but they do not appear to be overly responsive. The graphics are clear and colourful and almost instantaneous, whilst the interpreter will accept a wide range of input.

There are a number of useful features — such as recall of the last command — and the cursor can be moved through an entry enabling swift correction. Despite those features the game seems slow moving and it is all too easy to spend time getting hardly anywhere at all. That is an obvious disadvantage and may well mean the program is just too devious for the average adventurer. Time will tell.

Richard Price



KENTILLA

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Gilbert Factor: 6

Now get out of that

RIGHT FROM the beginning you realise you are up against it in **Eye of Bain**, the new Artic text adventure. There you are, tied to a pole in some stinking hovel, praying to every god you have ever heard of in the hope you will escape before the natives decide to have a snack between meals.

Being a fairly mighty warrior you have travelled to this awful place in search of a fabulously huge sacred emerald. The gem is called the Eye of Bain and lies hidden in the temple, somewhere near that loathsome village.

Life is not going to be easy. Once you have escaped you

will have to avoid endless perils and solve numerous tricky puzzles to reach the holy precincts. Crooked pirates, nasty nomads and killer bees are merely a few of the problems you will encounter — and have you ever tried to persuade an ape to give you a spot of help?

The adventure follows the usual Artic format though if you 'Look' you will be shown a picture of your location. That is a sensible approach to graphics as no time need be wasted unless you feel like it.

Input is in the standard verb/noun combination but multiple entries can be made by putting a full stop between

each instruction. That can save time but the interpreter responds very quickly anyway.

Artic seems to adopt a no-frills approach to their adventures. You may not get animated graphics or the chance to enter full sentences but you can be fairly sure of facing constant challenges and original problems. **Eye of Bain** continues this tradition and should provide many hours of solid entertainment. Great value.

Richard Price

EYE OF BAIN

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Gilbert Factor: 7

more software on page 40

Automata's origin of the faeces

PLAYING THE part of a mouse dropping may not be everybody's idea of fun or even good taste but you will soon forget that representation when you start to play the new Automata masterpiece, **Deus Ex Machina**.

The plot seems simple

discover the secret of your body and what lies within.

The game even depicts the life form's first sexual encounter, frightening and automated. The emotions evoked are standard and, of course, part of the system.

As old age creeps into the

age is of a spinning embryo, one of the first images of the game. The circle is complete and even an accident rarely disrupts the system.

The game and its soundtrack, featuring the talents of John Pertwee, Ian Dury, Donna Bailey, Frankie Howard, E P Thompson and Mel Croucher, is a revolution in gaming technology. It has its genesis in the concept record album of the late 1960s and 1970s.

Croucher has cleverly manipulated the elements of computer gaming and brought in concepts usually found only in movies. The result is a piece of software which even those people who usually find games boring

and computers even more so, will enjoy and play time and again. That is not to say, however, that the program is only for those who enjoy deep thought. Automata would have been foolish not to include classic elements of the arcade within its novel conceptual twists.

In the final analysis Deus Ex Machina is a game to be played first and talked about later. So, go ahead and do it. We won't look but we will guarantee — well, almost — that you will be intrigued.

John Gilbert

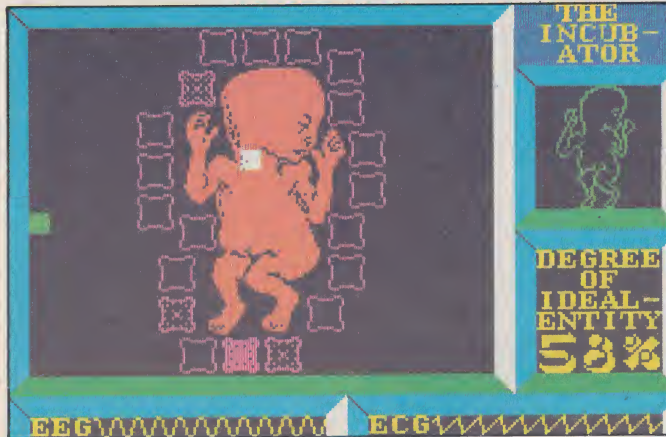
DEUS EX MACHINA

Memory: 48K

Price: £15.00

Joystick: Kempston, ZX

Gilbert Factor: 9



enough. It takes place in the future and a large computer rules the political roost. The last mouse crawls to its extinction within the machine and as the nerve gas kills it the ultimate mouse dropping is released by the rodent.

That is taken into the machine and the game, which takes up two sides of a cassette tape and an audio soundtrack, starts in which you must create a lifeform within the machine. You can take that lifeform, if it survives, from birth through middle age to old age, playing a series of weird games. Those make more sense when you listen to the soundtrack and realise that author Mel Croucher is trying to put a series of complex political, philosophical and theological points across.

The scenario is created, almost psychedelically, within the mind of the player with a background coloured by shades of Orwell's 1984. When you have been born you are tested by the Defect Police who want to know everything about you. They probe you with their emotionless eyes, blinking out of the darkness and trying to

game, on the second side of the tape, you suddenly discover that it is not just the forces of government which are attacking you. Your body rebels as it grows old, and towards the end of the game you will have to fight blood clots and red cell destruction from within. Even that system which you trust all your life lets you down in the end.

Mel Croucher does however, give you some hope as your body dies. The final im-



Blazing saddles . . .

WHEN YOU saddle up to play **Stagecoach** from Creative Sparks make darn sure that you put a lot of cotton wool in your strides or you will end up pretty sore in the nether regions — well, the cowboy on screen will anyway.

The game is an attractively animated Western split into three main sections. The jump comes first. There you are moseying over the desert when suddenly the stage appears. It is driverless, swaying and jolting all over the place.

The idea is to steer your cowboy up to the stage and

get him onto the coach roof. Dead easy you may say, but unfortunately the desert is filled with large cacti and bits of junk. Collide with these and you will be thrown off your mount. You will have to remount and set off after the stage again, wasting precious time in collecting the horse.

If you finally get on the stage you take the reins and guide it through the obstacle course of the mountains. On the way passengers must be picked up along with boxes of gold. Then come the Indians, whooping around the coach and threatening to take your passengers. Standing on the

roof your cowboy can shoot them down . . . leaving the stage driverless again and prone to further collisions.

The graphics are excellent. The cartoon effect is very well done with bright colours and fairly smooth action. There are a number of different tasks, each needing skill and practice. Stagecoach is an exciting game, full of incident and variety. *Richard Price*

STAGECOACH

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Joystick: Kempston,

Sinclair, Fuller, AGF/Protek

Gilbert Factor: 7

continued on page 42

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Death on the beach



Hawk swoops in for the kill

BLACK HAWK is one of the world's most sophisticated aircraft, jam-packed with missiles, cannons and similar deadly weapons. Jump in the cockpit, take off and head towards the enemy coast. Your mission — yes, you have guessed it — is to blow up everything you can as effectively as possible. After you have done that you also have to get away in one piece.

There are two playing screens. The first is a long range missile-firing screen. As the ground moves below, various enemy installations and war-machines appear. Those are two-dimensional and scroll down the screen in a map-like fashion. The ultimate aim is to find and destroy the enemy airbase. Once fired, missiles can be guided to the target with your joystick or control keys. Getting the hang of that will take some practice.

The second screen is for defending the plane against hostiles who manage to get through your missile screen undamaged.

Most dangerous of all are the SAM missiles which seem to get faster and faster as you progress up the score table. Extra weapon-systems are fitted to the Hawk if you

score certain percentages of target hits. More and more targets and threats will also appear. There are two playing modes — tough and tougher.

Creative Sparks has produced a shoot-em-up of some complexity and the action is furious. The missile firing sight can get confusing at times and is barely visible

A CALL TO General Quarters and a beach head invasion are the stuff of which generals are made but **Beach-Head**, a typical American import from US Gold, gives you the opportunity to fight the war single handed.

You guide your fleet around an aerial reconnaissance map making sure that you locate the enemy before they find you. Encounters at sea are shown in 3D with your ship's gun turrets at the bottom of the screen, firing

salvos at the aircraft which fly in low releasing their bombs in suicidal strafing runs.

Once you have found the enemy base, hidden in a secret passage, and avoided torpedoes, rocks and mines, you can have a go at wreaking your revenge on the enemy.

The graphics used in the beach scenes and at sea are best experienced at least four feet from the computer where they appear to be realistic. Do not let that put you off what is an excellent game of arcade skill and strategy. It looks as if US Gold is intent on bringing the best of the US software to Britain. If this, its first conversion to the Spectrum, is anything to go by the American products should be well received.

John Gilbert

BLACK HAWK

Memory: 48K

Price: £6.95

Joystick: Kempston,
Sinclair, Fuller, AGF/Protek

Gilbert Factor: 7

BEACH HEAD

Memory: 48K

Price: £7.95

Joystick: ZX, Protek,
Kempston

Gilbert Factor: 8

Prehistoric piffle

BULGING MUSCLES and a pair of wings makes **Kokotoni Wilf** one of the most unlikely heroes to fly into a game since the first space invader hatched from its egg above an earth base.

His mission, to find the lost pieces of an arcane amulet for the wizard Ulrich, is a serious affair in which he could be licked to death by a triceratops, zapped by a deadly egg or dropped on by a bat.

All those fates await the intrepid hero as he wings his way through several time zones and six lives in search of the fabled Dragon Amulet.

The graphics are as primitive as the dinosaurs which inhabit the upper levels of the game but the search, which can be compared with the search for drinking gob-

lets in **Jet Set Willy**, is fun. Skill and cunning is required on the lower levels when Wilf encounters prehistoric alligators, swims through underground tunnels and gets hit by nocturnal seagulls.

Not having anything to fire at the monsters may put you

off but for those who like to plan strategic play, and find a quiet corner of the screen, the game is excellent value.

John Gilbert

KOKOTONI WILF

Memory: 48K

Price: £5.95

Gilbert Factor: 6

more software on page 44



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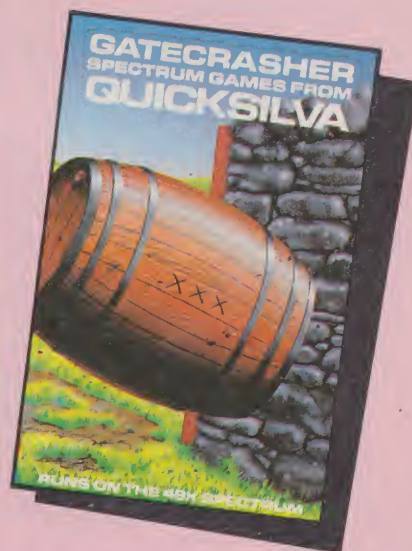


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Rubbishy refugees

ASTROPLANER, from Romik, might come as something of a shock, if your copy is packaged like the one received at *Sinclair User*.

The cassette insert promises a game called **Beatcha**, about a school in which all the pupils must avoid the teachers. On loading, however, the program turns out to be a shoddy version of **Defender** which, to add insult to injury is mostly written in Basic with a few bytes of machine code added for good measure.

Why anyone would want to bring out yet another version of the traditional game is beyond reason. There are already many versions around for the Spectrum and to release yet another the manufacturer must either think it has exceptional graphics or that it contains a feature not included in other versions.

Unfortunately that is not the case it is a slow version of the standard 'stop the aliens dropping the refugees' story. The hilly terrain and spacecraft stand out on a violent

green screen which plays tricks on the eyes, making the game difficult to play. The aliens look as if they have been imported from the Imagine **Arcadia**.

The keys are difficult to use because, with the copy we received, the main instructions about control of the spacecraft were given in the program. There are two keys which start the game. If the wrong key is pressed the player will not only not know what the game is about but will also have to press nearly every key to find the control and fire buttons.

The aliens against which the player has to pit wits belong in a school for the backwardly bug-eyed. You will get more action from a Venus flytrap.

Astroplaner is a definite disaster, a game to steer clear of unless you are making a collection of turkeys.

John Gilbert



ASTROPLANER

Memory: 48K
Price: £5.95
Gilbert Factor: 2

Bandits by moonlight

BY THE LIGHT of the bombers' moon a Lancaster weaves its way into enemy territory. Strapped in, shivering in the cold of high altitude, you clear the breeches of your machine guns and watch the night sky in apprehension. Barrage balloons drift across occasionally but suddenly the speck you thought was a star grows into the shape of a twin engined night-fighter. Here they come. Jinking and banking the fighters swarm up, guns twinkling in the darkness.

Night Gunner from Digital Integration is a multi-task arcade scenario casting you in the role of the turret gunner of the Lancaster. The main screen features the night-fighter attack. Against the

starry background the enemy planes zoom closer and, by using deflection shooting, you must knock them out before they cause serious damage to the bomber.

Pilot reports and damage status are shown beneath the screen and there are three bombers available. After surviving the fighters you progress to a ground attack screen in which you must either bomb various targets from above or dive the plane to take out enemy tanks with rockets. Flak or searchlights will hinder you.

During dive-bombing you need to watch the altimeter carefully as it is easy to crash into the ground. Once that is finished you make the return journey to base, again fight-

ing off savage attacks. Difficulty is progressive and there are thirty missions all told.

The night fighter graphics are quite impressive and are fast, smooth and distinct. There is a good feel of a dogfight though the balloons sometimes seem a little out of place as they swerve across the sky. The other screens are not as accomplished but remain exciting and taxing. The overall style has similarities with **Zzoom**, making this shoot-em-up a compulsive and demanding program.

Richard Price

NIGHT GUNNER

Memory: 48K
Price: £6.95
Joystick: Kempston, AGF, Protek, Sinclair
Gilbert Factor: 6

A dream come true in NW3

HAMPSTEAD is, well, Afghans and jogging and all sorts of things. And Hampstead Man is, well, Jeremy — off to the city, playing squash, and taking Annabel and Toby out for a crêpe.

If you have ever wondered how Hampstead Man got there, you should try some software written by and for social climbers. Hampstead is not, after all, just a place — it's a way of life. And believe it or not, Hampstead Man may come from the humblest of origins.

To get to Hampstead with nothing but a UB40 and a tracksuit you have to know the form — what to wear, what to say, which newspaper, which muesli — and you may have to lie, cheat and steal to get there.

Collect the Wykehamist tie, passport to clubland and merchant banking and extract Art from an industrial labyrinth. Head off for Cambridge and Richmond — but be careful. Seek out Pippa, and then get round her father. Only when you have done all that are you ready for Hampstead.

Hampstead is a text-only adventure, written on the Quill. Using an all-purpose program limits the scope of the game, and Melbourne House, which produced **The Hobbit**, could have done better. A more serious irritation is a racist bias. Was it really necessary to have a grinning Pakistani in a north London Post Office, a 'foreign' voice on the station tannoy and middle eastern races selling hamburgers?

Despite its flaws you are sure to find Hampstead an entertaining romp up the social ladder.

Joanna Pegum

HAMPSTEAD

Memory: 48K
Price: £9.95
Gilbert Factor: 8

more software on page 46

BREAK THE SPECTRUM SOUNDBARRIER



Any micro computer is capable of manufacturing sound, however, to produce software capable of performing just the one task would be difficult.

The production of sound effects without the constant attention of the processor is now possible thanks to the "AY" sound chip. It is now used by computer manufacturers and incorporated in most arcade games. This gives you some idea of its power and flexibility. It is used in a wide range of applications including music synthesis and sound effect generators. The interface also includes a beep amplifier to enhance the spectrum beep output.

Included with your "AY" is a free music designer cassette.

When loaded this software displays a screen showing all its

functions. Joystick or keyboard control enables you to move the cursor along the keyboard selecting the desired notes by simply pressing the fire key/button.

You can vary the tempo/volume and when "played" the notes simultaneously scroll across the screen.

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The Spectrum Connection

Ket reaches its climax

PAIN AND nausea sweep over you as you wake. Your head feels as if a troll has been using it as a football. Your mouth is dry and, judging by the darkness, your eyes are not doing too well either.

Slowly your vision returns and you make out a dim light. The stones beneath you are damp and cold and you finally realise that you are locked in a cell. Take a look round — there is only a chair. This is Vran Verusbel's dungeon and you are in it — right up to the neck.

So begins **The Final Mission**, last in the Ket Trilogy from Incentive. After a blow on the head at the end of the previous adventure our reluctant hero finds himself in a tight spot and must now escape to seek out and destroy Vran the vile necromancer.

The format remains pure text. Locations are boxed at the top of the screen and the score is displayed above the description — a useful idea as you will immediately notice if you perform some significant action. As ever, the interpreter is friendly and responds with variety and occasional flashes of humour.

Edgar, the assassin bug strapped to your neck, has become quite taciturn and is very sparing with help. When his tongue is loosed he will provide the occasional clue. Most of the time you are on your own in Vran's gloomy halls and subterranean passages. You will hear the patter of tiny feet and the crunch of giant ones behind you.

The problems are well up to standard, there is also the pull of the concluding portion of the prize winning sentence.

The Final Mission looks to be a fitting finale to the quest.

Richard Price

THE FINAL MISSION

Memory: 48K
Price: £5.50
Gilbert Factor: 7

Inscrutable plates

THROWING PLATES into the air and balancing them on poles might not be your idea of fun but obviously somebody at Ocean Software thinks that a **Chinese Juggler** makes a smashing game.

Your performer must take the plates from the piles set at the front of the stage and toss them into the air until they are the correct colour to go onto one of the poles.

Once you achieve the correct coloured plate you can spin it on one of the poles and return for another. That continues, together with odd intervals where you must re-spin plates which are threatening to fall, until all of the poles have been used.

After initial interest wanes

the game becomes slightly boring and then excruciatingly so. Each level is easy and once you have been past the eighth or ninth level there is not much left to do.

The game has proved popular for the Commodore 64

which probably confirms what you have always suspected of Commodore users.

John Gilbert

CHINESE JUGGLER

Memory: 48K
Price: £6.90
Gilbert Factor: 5



Bikers bore in creepy castle

BMXers beware. Somewhere out there is a castle full of ghosts and treasure ready to take you into its dreadful maw. **Ghost Rider** from Positive Image features an intrepid bike rider competing in such a spectral motocross.

The game uses the platform format with the castle rooms split into six levels. The rider is shown as a silhouette figure pedalling away for dear life around the haunted pile.

Access to each level is by unpredictable elevators which must be ridden onto with some precision. Getting off the lifts is equally dangerous as there is only just enough space between roof and ceiling for the rider to fit.

Treasures such as crowns and golden cups are lying around on the platforms and all must be collected before you can go onto the next screen.

There are twelve screens each of increasing difficulty. The floors are patrolled by an assortment of ghosts and monsters all of which will kill our biker instantly if he makes a false move. The hazards are much the same on

each screen though the structure of the platforms gets more fragmented.

On first sight the program seems relatively simple but in fact you must take great care to collect treasures in the correct order, or you will run out of fuel and be unable to reach the refuelling point in time. The golden cups are only accessible after the other minor items have been picked up and are often placed behind brick walls which create further obstacles.

Though the game is difficult and nerve-racking at times the graphics are rather bleak and flickery. The use of a white background results in a fair amount of glare and can be tiring after a while. The rather uninspiring presentation counts against the program. So does the fact that it is extremely temperamental about loading.

Richard Price

GHOST RIDER

Memory: 48K
Price: £6.95
Gilbert Factor: 4

No picnic for bears

THE MOST interesting thing about **Gilligan's Gold** from Ocean Software is the difference between the demonstration and what is actually possible. The game is set in a mine, and you control what looks like a pink teddy bear from marauding green bears as you collect gold.

The pink teddy in the demonstration had great fun digging out gold with a pickaxe and dashing up ladders and lifts to deposit his finds in a wheelbarrow. A favourite ruse is to drop a bag of gold down a mine shaft and onto

an unsuspecting bear's head, causing him to collapse and see stars.

Sadly, our team found it near impossible to pick up the gold or pick-axe or to manoeuvre the wheelbarrow. We could not even make use of the pit bus, which would run down a bear as soon as look at one.

The speed and the attractive display show that it can be addictive.

Joanna Pegum

GILLIGAN'S GOLD

Memory: 48K
Price: £5.90
Gilbert Factor: 6

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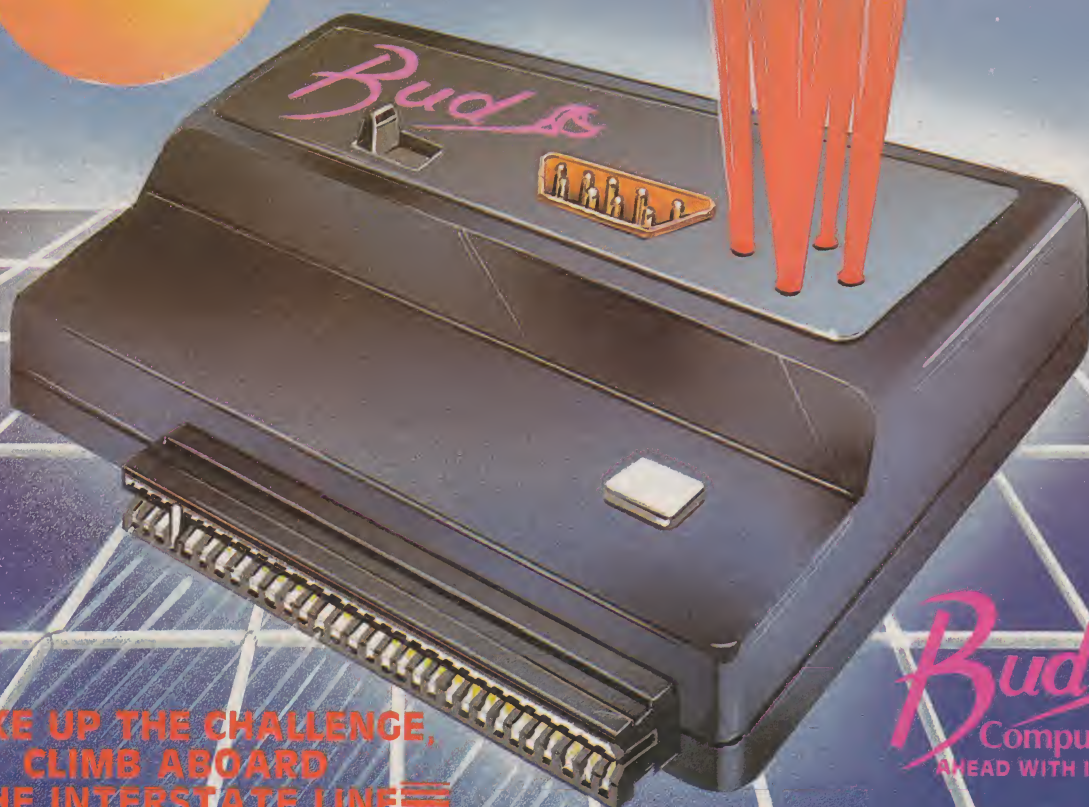
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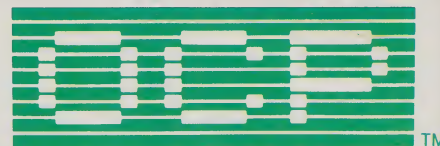
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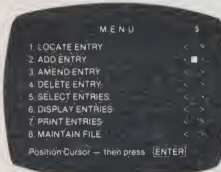
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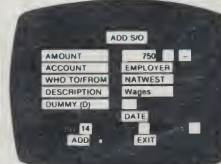
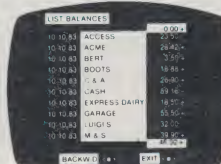
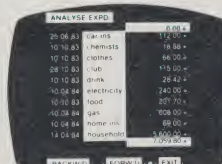
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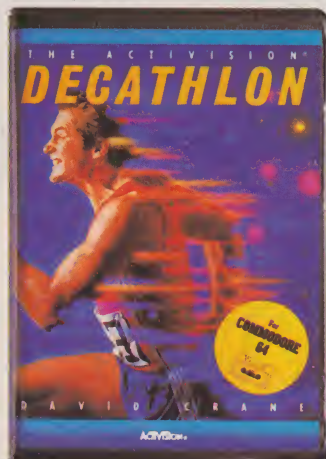
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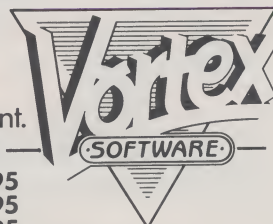
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Tape loading troubles

CAN YOU GIVE me some information on compatible cassette players for the Spectrum.

I have one which I bought with my Spectrum from Dixons. It is their own make and whilst I find it perfectly adequate for loading most pre-recorded tapes and my own programs, it does sometimes prove very difficult to load from certain pre-recorded tapes.

I usually have no problems with Psion tapes which will always load first time. On the inserts it says that the tapes are made to load over a wide range of tone and volume and it seems to give no problem whatsoever.

I have had the misfortune to purchase some cassettes that are very difficult to load. My latest purchase is **Full Throttle** by Micromega, and that refuses to load.

**M E Kelly,
Weston-Super-Mare,
Avon.**

● From your letter the problem appears to be with the cassette deck. It may be simply that the head is slightly out of alignment or that it is not running at the correct speed. Take it back to Dixons, with your copy of Full Throttle, and explain the problem to them. They should either replace the deck or refund your money.

Modems for amusement

I, LIKE many others using the ZX-81, am bored with its limited graphics. So I am forced to look for some other amusement, and the Prestel

and Micronet systems seem the perfect solution. Are there any modems available for the 81? If so do they need an RS232 interface?

**Daniel Morgan,
Billingham,
Cleveland.**

● To run a modem from the ZX-81 you need an adapter. The Universal Modem Adapter by Comprosys is the only one we know of which will work with the ZX-81 and give you Prestel-type graphics. It includes its own RS232 interface.

Priced at a very reasonable £29.95, further details are available from Comprosys, 129 Campden Road, South Croydon, Surrey.

Sizing up the sockets

I HAVE a Spectrum 48K, but as yet I have no portable cassette player to load and save programs with. I do have a tape deck — one component of a hi-fi, as opposed to a self contained tape player — but the MIC and EAR sockets on it are too large to take the leads provided with the spectrum.

**Thomas Austin,
Stowmarket, Suffolk.**

● Your cassette deck would appear to use $\frac{1}{4}$ in size sockets while the Spectrum lead uses 2.5mm plugs. Rumbelows, and possibly other electrical retailers, can supply an adapter which converts from one size to the other but you will have to experiment as to which MIC socket, left or right, will work.

A better solution — would be to obtain the necessary plugs and sockets from a component supplier, such as Maplin, and to wire them up yourself. In

that way you can ensure that the signal from the computer is recorded on both tracks, in mono, which will give a better recording.

Add-on of an antique age

AT ONE TIME there was regularly advertised a device called ZX-99, which was said to enable the ZX-81 to control a tape recorder and load sections of recorded data from a tape, at will. Its cost, if I remember rightly, was just under £50.00 but no advertisements for it have appeared since January 1983.

I wrote twice to the advertisers asking for details of the device — some sort of user's manual — but received no reply to either letter; I can only assume that they went out of business.

Can you tell me if any such device is now available for the ZX-81? The Memotech adjuncts would seem to be something like as effective — but the ZX-99 was said to allow access to even 1Mb of memory.

**L G Unstead-Joss,
Edinburgh.**

● The ZX-99 for the ZX-81 was produced by Data-Assette, the last address we have is 44 Shroton Street, London NW1 6UB, Tel: (01)-258-0409. It was priced at £62.90 and allowed you to control up to four cassette decks, LOAD, SAVE and VERIFY programs and data and drive a RS232 printer.

If you are still unable to contact them you could try Adams, 1 Lewin Road, London N16 7NL, who makes the RZ1 Tape controller, suitable for the ZX-81 or Spectrum, priced £25.00 which will control a tape deck, or BasiCare Micro-

system Ltd, 12 Rickett Street, London SW6 which makes a paging system for both computers which allows you to access up to 1Mb of memory, and also relay controllers which can be used with cassette decks.

Joysticks for Jet Pac

I AM NEW to computers and have bought a Spectrum and Interface 2.

I have found that some of the games can be played with a joystick and Interface 2, but many, like **Jetpac**, do not work with it.

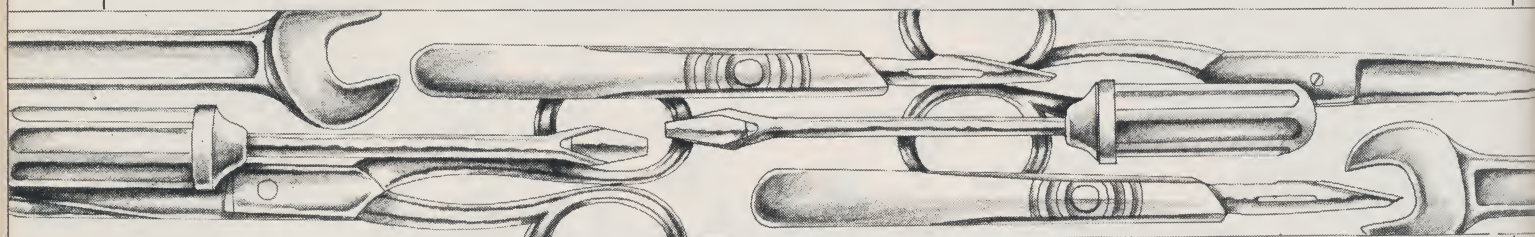
I have written to Sinclair Research about this, but they do not reply to individual queries. What I need to know is whether the Interface 2 is programmable so that a joystick can be used with games which are Kempston or cursor compatible, and if so, how is it done.

**Jeff Ashby,
South Woodham Ferrers,
Essex.**

● Unfortunately, there are now three different standards which joysticks can use: Sinclair, cursor and Kempston. There is no easy way that a program written for one standard can be converted for use with another.

The answer is to buy either a programmable interface, which allows you to nominate which keys you want to use, such as that from Fox Electronics, or one which can switch between standards such as those from RAM Electronics or Protek. As you already have Interface 2 then the adapter lead from Abtron, 38 Rydens Avenue, Walton-on-Thames KT12 3JP, priced £7.99, will allow you to use games which use the cursor keys.

more on page 52



Panasonic printers

I USE a Panasonic KX-P1090 matrix printer with my Spectrum and Interface 1. The printer is capable of reproducing graphics using bit image designation commands. Can you give me a substitute for the Spectrum COPY-command that transfers the screen to the printer?

Ove Enqvist,
Helsinki, Finland.

● *Interface 1 does not have any commands built in which enable you to COPY the screen via the RS232 port. The only way is to write a routine to do that for you. Without resorting to machine code the following Basic program should prove useful, it simply uses the POINT command to read the information to the printer. It will work on any Epson compatible printer, such as the Panasonic KX-P1090.*

The only things to bear in

```
10 FORMAT "b"; baud-rate: REM s
  et to printer
20 OPEN#3;"b": REM open binary
  channel to printer-using channel
  3 so you can use LPRINT
30 LPRINT CHR$ 27;"A";CHR$ 8;;RE
  M set 8/72 inch line spacing
40 FOR v=168 TO 0 STEP -8
50 LPRINT CHR$ 27;"K";CHR$ 0;CHR
  $ 1;; REM prepare for 256 bits of
  data
60 FOR x=0 TO 255
70 LPRINT CHR$ (POINT (x,y)+2*POI
  NT (x,y+1)+4*POINT (x,y+2)+8*POI
  NT (x,y+3)+16*POINT (x,y+4)+32*POI
  NT (x,y+5)+64*POINT (x,y+6)+128*P
  OINT (x,y+7));: REM assemble data
  bit and send it
80 NEXT x
90 LPRINT CHR$ 13;CHR$ 10: REM s
  end carriage return/line feed-adj
  ust to printer
100 NEXT y
110 LPRINT CHR$ 27;"A";CHR$12: RE
  M reset line spacing
```

mind are that POINT does not work on the bottom two lines of the screen so the routine will only COPY the top 22 lines and secondly, as Sinclair Basic is fairly slow be prepared to take a coffee break.

Stonechips sob-story

AFTER spending months looking for a Stonechips programmable joystick interface, I succeeded in buying one.

I went on to tackle Jet Pac and eventually managed to bring the game under joystick control. That however, took over an hour of stretching fingers to press three keys and move the joystick at the same time.

I have only attempted to use the interface twice since and have now decided to get rid of it and settle for a Kempston. Please could you tell me how to do that?

Gavin Lake,
Hertford,
Hertfordshire.

● *If you are unhappy with anything you have purchased then go to the shop where you bought it and ask for your money back. Not many shops will do that without a great deal of argument.*

If possible, try the add-on in the shop before buying or read reviews of it in magazines, such as Sinclair User.

As regards selling the interface, your only hope is to try the classified pages and hope that someone who has not read your letter will buy it.

Connections made clear

WOULD someone please explain to us mortal users the pin configuration of the Sinclair Interface 1 RS 232 port.

I long to use the RS 232 port to drive my OKI Microline 82A Dot Matrix Printer, but have been unable to sort out the signals and pins from the Interface 1 unit to the standard 25 pin D type connector.

I am currently able to use the printer, but only when driven by a parallel interface. However, that does take up valuable RAM, which could be put to better use in the construction of program data.

Timothy M Gray,
Orpington,
Kent.

● *Page 49 of the Interface 1 manual shows the pin arrangement of the RS232 port. What*

has confused many people is that it is configured as a DCE (Data Communication Equipment) device which actually means that half the pins are the 'wrong way round'.

Pin 2, which is marked TX data, receives the data and so should be connected to the TX data pin of the printer. Similarly Pin 3, RX data, is output and so connects to the RX data pin of the printer. The following table should make things clearer — NC means no connection.

Plugging in RAM packs

I RECENTLY bought a 32K Cheetah Ram pack to increase the capacity of my 16K Spectrum to 48K.

Which joysticks are compatible with the system, and secondly, is it possible to place the 32K Ram pack "contents" within the Spectrum and then upgrade to a more professional keyboard.

E Shufflebotham,
Manchester.

● *The Cheetah RAM pack should be compatible with all joystick interfaces.*

It is theoretically possible to put the contents of the RAM pack inside the Spectrum but in practice it would prove difficult. You may find it easier to purchase a flexible connector which will overcome the problem of fitting it onto the back of a full-sized keyboard.

Interface 1 Printer Function

Pin	Pin	Function
1	—	NC
2	2	TX data-data from printer to interface
3	3	RX data-data from interface to printer
4	20	DTR-Data Terminal Ready-interface ready to receive
5	5	CTS-Clear To Send-printer ready to receive
6	—	NC
7	7	Ground-Earth
8	—	NC
9	—	NC-not required by printer

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Spectrum makes music

AN UNUSUAL and costly device for the Spectrum is MIDI interface manufactured by Siel (UK) Ltd. MIDI stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface and it is a standard format for the exchange of information between digital musical instruments, those typically being keyboard instruments such as synthesisers. The information it handles is the pitch of the note, duration of the note and dynamic information such as the speed at which the key has been pressed.

It was decided to test the Siel interface on the Siel DK600 synthesiser and the Siel Expander – although it will drive any MIDI compatible instrument – using two Siel software cassettes, the Live Sequencer and Expander Editor, both for the Spectrum.

The instructions for connecting instruments to the interface were a little confusing, and Siel would do well to give more explanation here, although its instruction

manual gives the full protocol of the MIDI standard, invaluable if you want to write your own programs for it.

With the DK600 connected to the Spectrum via the MIDI interface, the Live Sequencer allows the computer to record a single polyphonic track in real time as you play it on the keyboard. It can then play it back. There is a function for varying the tempo of playback and for producing refrains by looping. When you have perfected your tune you can save it onto cassette for later use.

The second piece of software, the Expander Editor, is for the Siel Expander. The Expander is just another DK600 synthesiser but has no keyboard or controls. To set it up you can either load it from the DK600 or from the Spectrum using the Expander Editor. That gives a high resolution graphics display of the controls, and via menu and graphics options all the controls can be set from the Spectrum.

You can judge when you

have set up the sound by using the pre-programmed note and chord sequences and adjusting until they are correct. It also has a HELP facility for explaining what effect the controls have on the sound. A very nice piece of software indeed.

The whole system is very impressive and of high quality and, as you may by now be thinking, it is not cheap.

The MIDI interface retails at £99.00 including the Live Sequencer. If brought separately, the latter is £22.00. The DK600 six voice polyphonic synthesiser is £999.00 and a six voice Expander is £649.00. Siel is bringing out the MK9000 keyboard instrument which will retail at £449.00. The Expander Editor costs £53.50. Siel is planning more software for the Spectrum and if you are interested in music you should look at the Siel range. In terms of technical ability and ease of use it is good and inexpensive compared to other equipment on the market.

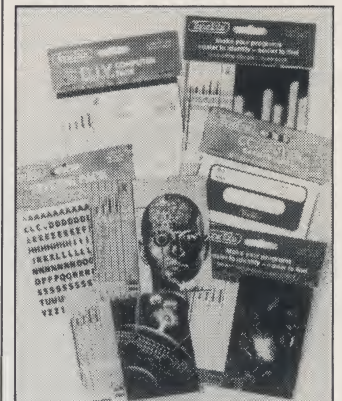
Siel (UK) Ltd, is at Ahed Depot, Reigate Road, Hookwood, Horley, Surrey, RH6 0AY. Tel: (02934) 76153/4.

Cassette cards

SINCLAIR User is always on the look-out for new ideas and we have now found a Christmas present for the micro user who has everything. Tape Tabs are sets of ten cassette inlay cards with high quality pictures on the front.

You can choose from pictures of cowboys, motorcycles, astronauts, women's bottoms, hamburgers, modern art, *Dungeons and Dragons*, science fiction or even arcade games. There are also DIY Packs with self-adhesive fronts so you can add your own pictures.

Tape tabs are priced at 85 pence per pack. For details of availability contact Tape Tabs Ltd, 70 Orbel Street, London, SW11 3NY.



Saga keyboard care

AN ERROR in the October issue of Sinclair User gave the impression that the Emperor keyboard from Saga Systems could not easily be used with Interface 1 and microdrives. The article should have read "add-ons such as Interface 1 connect without difficulty."

Saga has also informed us of its new range of carrying cases and dust covers for the



keyboard and computers. The carrying case is made of waterproof vinyl with two compartments made of a shatter-proof ABS with a thick high density black foam lining. It has black leather straps and carrying handle which is riveted into position. It costs £26.95.

The dustcover fits the Emperor keyboard and is made of nylon. It can be obtained for £4.49.

Finally, Saga is about to release a peripheral kit which includes the keyboard, Soundboost, Flexicable, Paddle board, carrying case and dustcover. More information about the Saga System peripherals for the Spectrum can be obtained from Saga Systems Ltd, Woodham Road, Woking, Surrey, GU21 4DL.

QL conversion

THE LATEST item for the QL is a serial to Centronics converter from Tyepro Ltd.

It is housed in a grey plastic box and on one side there is a built-in lead to the printer. You must furnish your own lead to connect to the QL, but the ample instructions advise you on how that should be done.

The unit will drive standard Centronics interface printers from the QL RS232 printer interface, and so scores over normal Centronics interfaces in that no extra software is needed to control the interface. You are, in fact, using the RS232 interface inside the QL, together with its

software. It has a switchable baud rate, via a dial switch inside the unit, from 150 to 19200 baud, so is adaptable to most printers. It is supplied set for 9600 baud, the setting for the QL Super Basic.

Though the converter is powered from the QL it does have a facility for running from a battery, should you want to use it on other computers, such as the Spectrum with Interface 1. The instructions also have a fault-finding guide.

All in all, for £49.95 a reasonable investment. It is obtainable from Tyepro Ltd.

more hardware on page 59

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Long leads on drives

CLASSIFIED Product Services has recently increased its range of leads for the Spectrum and QL. In addition to the Spectrum flexible connectors — see *Sinclair User*, August — it can now supply extra long microdrive leads and RS232 cables.

The microdrive lead, which is 42cm long as opposed to the standard 8cm, is £8.50 and the RS232 leads are £10.95 for the Spectrum and £10.00 for the QL, both cheaper than Sinclairs'.

Other leads are available to extend the ariel or joystick leads. For further details contact Classified Product Services Ltd, Shire Hall, The Sands, Appleby-in-Westmorland, Cumbria CA16 6XN.

Cubs on screen

AN ATTRACTIVE alternative to the common TV set is provided by the Microvitec Cub monitors for the Spectrum and QL.

The Spectrum 452 Cub, cased in metallic black, is supplied with an interface lead which plugs into the back. The connection to the Spectrum is made using a PCB which slots onto the bus at the back of the computer.

Picture quality is excellent and the definition of graphic and textual displays beats that of a television set. The reason for that is that the dot density on a TV screen is much thinner than that of the

Keyboard has class

THE LATEST add-on keyboard to hit the crowded Spectrum market is the Cheeta 68FX1 from London MicroTech Ltd, marketed by Fox Electronics Ltd. Aimed at the upper end of the market it has 65 keys, using proper switches, including 13 single key functions and a 145mm long space bar. Those are arranged as a main keyboard with a separate numeric pad and are printed in two colours, black and red.

On the left is a true Shift Lock key — one press puts the lock on and the second takes it off — and two blank keys. While, in theory, you could wire those for your own needs, in practice it would be extremely difficult as the leads to the switches

have been cut so short as to make them inaccessible.

To the right the single key functions are Edit, Delete, Break (Caps Shift and Space), Graphics (which toggles on and off), Run (R followed by Enter), four shifted cursor keys and an extra Caps Shift. The only obvious omission is an 'E' mode key, particularly as there are not two shift keys conveniently adjacent.

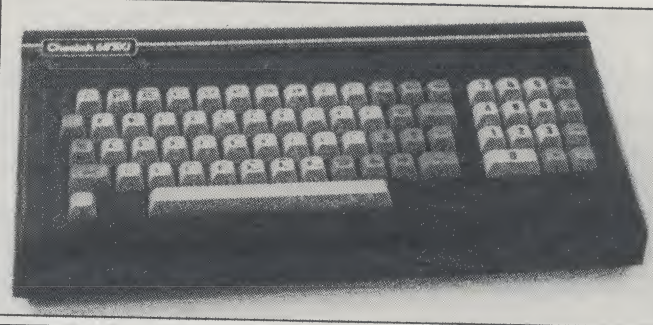
Fitting it entails removing the Spectrum from the original case and then mounting it on pillars on the base of the keyboard. Two ribbon cables from the new keyboards then fit into the top of the PCB and the whole assembly is screwed together. That is like most other full-sized keyboards and should not be a problem.

If Interface 1 is to be fitted then the pillars are changed

around and the interface sits underneath the base of the keyboard. The instructions for that are not very clear so trial and error will be needed. As the base is of metal great care should also be taken.

Overall, the keyboard has a good feel to it, it is solidly built and while the keys are heavy they will probably loosen with use. The shifted cursor keys are useful for program writing or word processing and the lack of 'E' mode key could be overcome with familiarity.

The price of £59.95 inc. puts it near the top of the scale but even so it is still good value. It is available by mail order from Fox Electronics Ltd, Fox House, 35 Martham Road, Hemsby, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR29 4NQ. Tel: (0493) 732420.



After the lights go out

TIMELY arrivals for the ZX-81 and Spectrum are the Nike-81 and Nike-SP from Cambridge Microelectronics Ltd. They are small boxes with rechargeable batteries which, in the event of a power cut, maintain the power to the computer so you do not lose your program.

On top is a switch to turn the computer on and off and two LEDs, a green one to show the computer is on and a red one for when the mains fail.

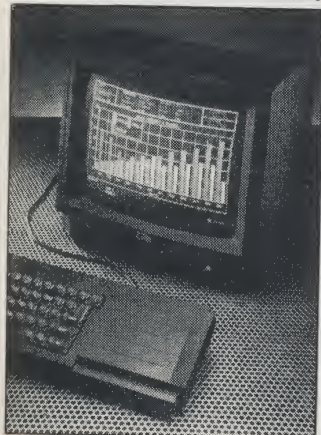
The box also contains a mains filter which stops any mains-borne interference from blowing the program. To test that a printer, TV,

lamp, disc drive and the computer were connected through one switch which was turned off and on again without losing the program, a very severe test for any filter.

In use the box keeps itself charged and, in the event of a power cut, it can support the computer, interfaces and RAM packs for a minimum of 30 minutes. If you use your computer seriously then this is a vital addition.

Both the Nike-81 and Nike-SP are priced at £19.95 inc. and are available from Cambridge Microelectronics Ltd, 1 Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1UY.

more hardware on page 16



monitor. For business purposes the 452 will show charts with remarkable clarity and will be of great help in spotting the mistakes in word processed text as the quality of the picture will reduce eye fatigue.

For the QL the interface arrangement is much simpler because of the RGB port at the back of the machine. The lead is supplied as well as Sinclair Research.

The Cub 653 for the QL is smarter than the Spectrum version and is built into a black plastic moulded casing. Its definition enhances the QL display in both television and monitor modes.

Both monitors have a 22in screen. The Spectrum version can only be switched off at the mains whereas the QL Cub contains an illuminated switch at the front of the base.

The QL monitor costs £275.00 and the Spectrum Cub costs £225.00. Both versions can be obtained from Microvitec PLC, Futures Way, Bolling Road, Bradford, BD4 7TU.

Auto-fire Bud interface

YET ANOTHER joystick interface from a new hardware company made its appearance at the last Microfair. The Interstate 31 from Bud Computers Ltd is a standard Kempston interface — i.e. it will work with all Kempston compatible games — but has two additions.

On some games you must repeatedly hit the fire button as only one bullet/rocket/bomb is fired for each key press. With this interface a small switch is moved to the 'Auto' position and now by keeping the fire button

pressed you maintain firing, a great saving on both finger and keyboard. Secondly, a reset button has been included, allowing you to break out of a machine code game without pulling the plug.

As is all too common these days, the interface does not have a through connector for other add-ons. It sits flat and there should be no problems

with the joystick lead fouling the computer if you have a full-sized keyboard.

Bud Computers Ltd is at 196 Milburn Road, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 0PH. Tel: (0670) 856616. The interface is priced at £11.95. It is guaranteed for 18 months or 30,000 Galactic miles, although no one has yet claimed under the latter.

Special monitor

THE NEW 14in, 1302-2 High Resolution Monitor from Opus Supplies is one of the few monitors which has been specially configured to work with the QL. It gives a clear 85 character display.

It is housed in a large cream case with the on/off switch and brightness controls to the right of the screen. All the other controls — height, vertical and horizontal hold, are well con-

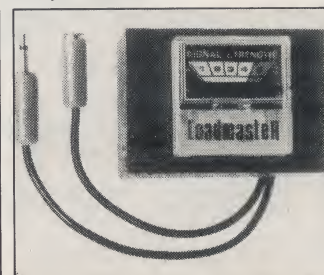
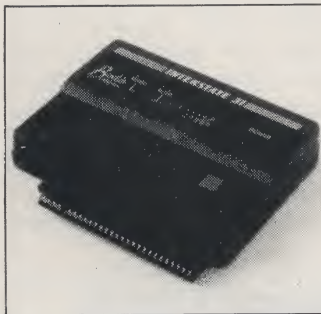
cealed in the back of the set. To get to them the instructions suggest that you poke a screwdriver through the ventilation slots in the back. Not something that should be recommended. Fortunately the set should not need any initial adjustment.

The monitor is priced at £299.95, including VAT and delivery, from Opus Supplies Ltd, 158 Caberwell Road, London SE5 0EE.

Reading volumes

WHEN LOADING programs from tape a VU, or signal strength, meter is an invaluable aid. The Loadmaster Volume Indicator from Probemaster is a meter which plugs into the EAR lead between the cassette deck and computer and displays the volume which the computer is receiving.

Priced at £11.49 it provides a useful addition if your cassette deck does not already have a meter. From Probemaster Ltd, 23 The Ridgeway, Cuffley, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 4BB.



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Epson FX100	£435.00
KAGA/TAXAN KP910	£349.00
Centronics or RS232 Printer cable	£8.00
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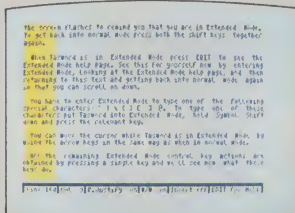


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Written by Tasman Software Ltd.
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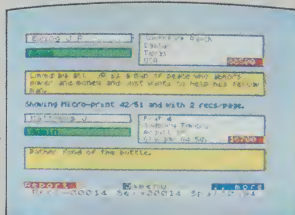


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Written by Campbell Systems Ltd.
Usual price (RRP): £16.95.



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Written by Quicksilver Ltd.
Usual price (RRP): £14.95.



Ant Attack

The all-time classic 3D strategy game. Ant Attack combines stunning Escher-like graphics with fast-moving action and a real tactical challenge.

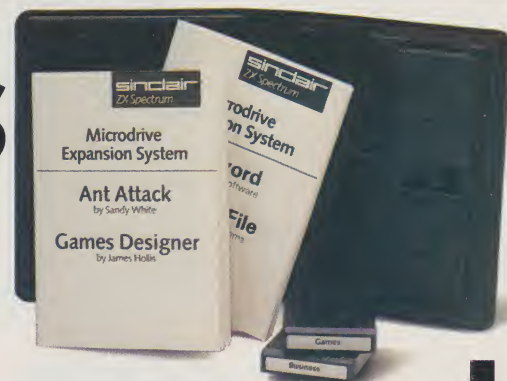
Your task is to enter the walled city, seek out your captured partner, and escape. At all times you can choose from four angles of view. But beware: the city is patrolled by giant ants...

Written by Quicksilver Ltd. Usual price (RRP): £6.95.



All programs run on a 48K Spectrum or Spectrum+. Recommended retail prices are for each program on cassette.

...includes this great set of Microdrive programs!



The unique ZX Microdrive system sets the Spectrum apart from all other home computers.

It gives you all the advantages of floppy disc drives—at a fraction of the cost. And tests show the Microdrives are faster than some disc drives.

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- Only 9 seconds to load a typical 48K program.

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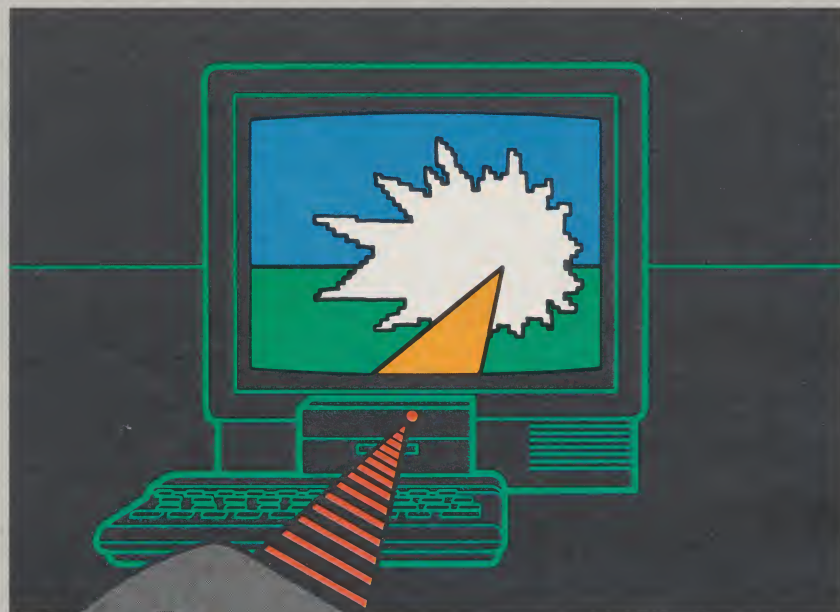
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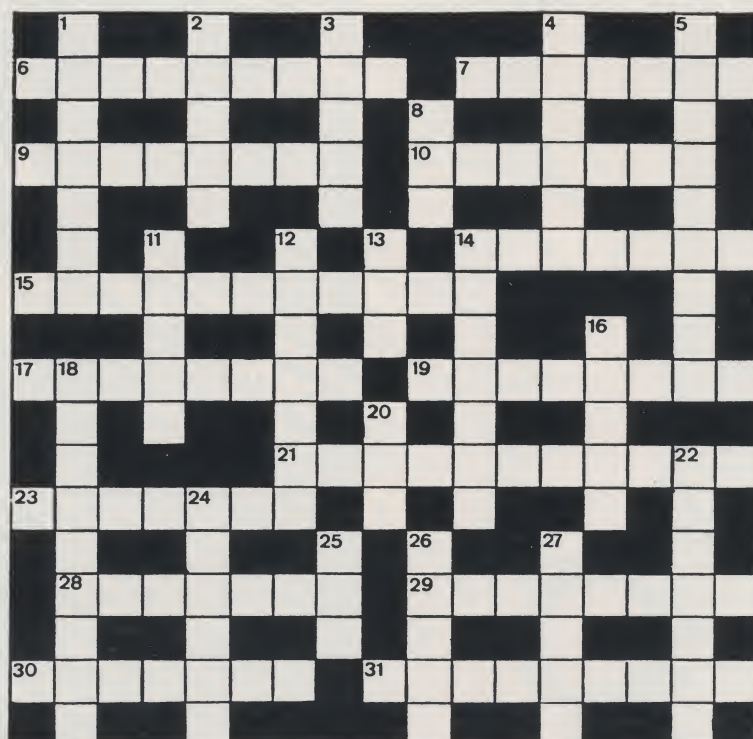
and all good computer shops.



The hacker's crossword

To delight and infuriate you, Sinclair User proudly presents a silicon crossword of heroic difficulty. Tougher than the Times, more devious than the Daily Telegraph, this one will have you racking your brains long after the last carol-singers have faded into the distance.

On the other hand, knowing our readers, you will probably finish the whole thing in fifteen minutes flat.



Solution on page 238

ACROSS

6. A frenetic compiler for the boundary between hardware units (9)
7. Set of instructions in support of the weight (7)
9. Automatic checker of the truth, perhaps (8)
10. Voltage change done on the spur of the moment? (7)
14. Repeat a mathematical procedure (i.e. treat differently) (7)
15. Record update needed for a business deal (11)
17. Hardcopy certificate (8)
19. Anaesthetised deer regrouped and counted! (8)
21. Go astray or account for the list of mistakes (5,6)
23. Output device with strong union at the press? (7)
28. Cut drug with variable resistance (4-3)
29. Signs of life in data-processing revealed by cavity, it seems (8)
30. Castle managed in high-level language (7)
31. Programmed instruction given to the Police (9)

DOWN

1. A whole number (7)
2. Voltage fluctuation causing continental movement? (5)
3. Micro built on car scrap (5)
4. Part of 7 needed for the space capsule (6)
5. Suitable output medium for press bureaucracy? (5,4)
8. Basically a stupid statement concerning arrays (3)
11. Put in data back-to-front (5)
12. Sampling device used to monitor pregnancies? (7)
13. Match record with top-twenty single?
14. Question posed at the console (7)
16. Assembly-level secretaries? (5)
18. Addition or subtraction, for example, could be performed by the surgeon (9)
20. A vertical redundancy check, initially (3)
22. Humdrum set of instructions (7)
24. Old digital alarms for eggs? (6)
25. The oracles channel (3)
26. Interrupts the program when the apprentice has tea brewed (5)
27. Collections of records on life's mystery? (5)

COMING SOON...

**GOOD GRIEF!
WE'RE NOW
IN THE BLACK FOREST
CHATEAU**

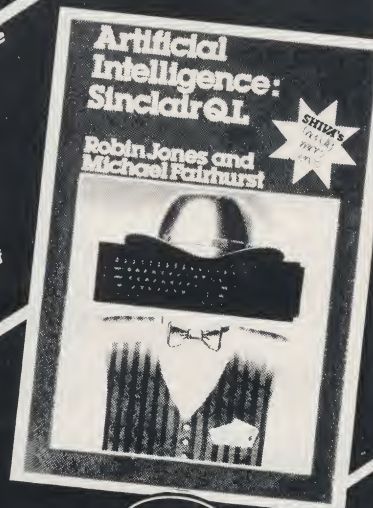


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Robin Jones and Michael Fairhurst

Heard about artificial intelligence but don't really know what it's all about? Well, now you can learn the basic theories and techniques and implement them on your Sinclair QL. With this book you can teach your micro to recognise patterns, generate conversational images and represent knowledge. It's all scaled down of course, so all you need to know is BASIC, and off you go!



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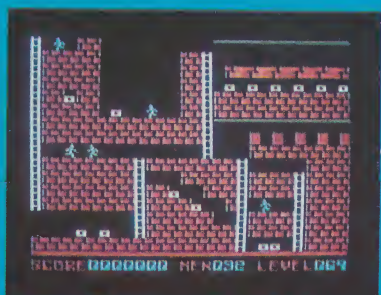
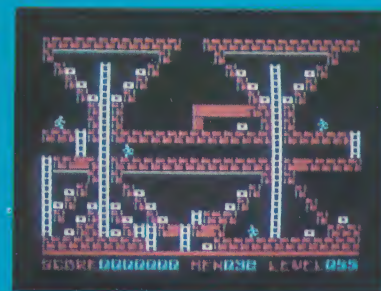
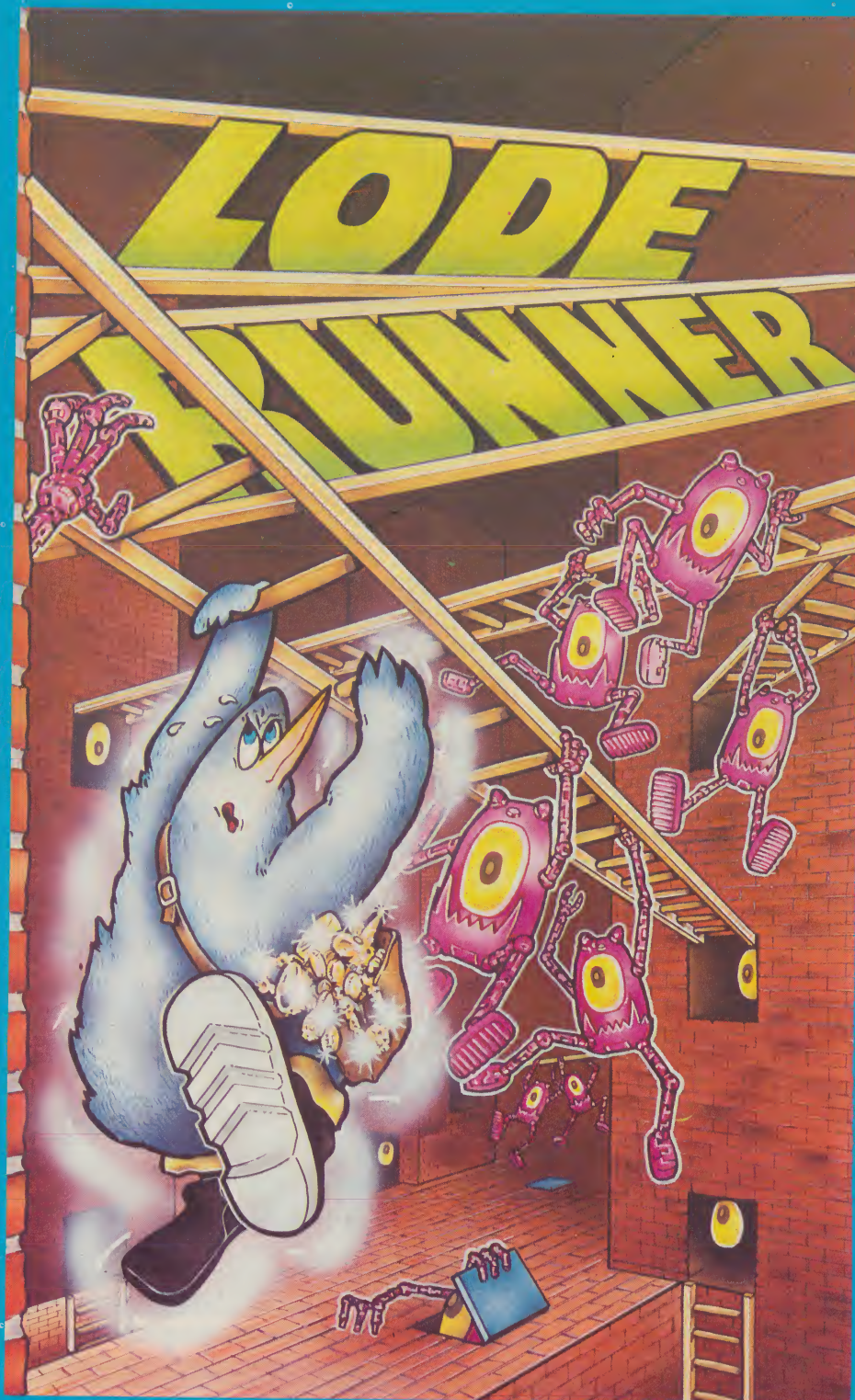
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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS IN CHART	TITLE	Publisher	Computer	SPECTRUM	VIC 20	COMMODORE 64	ELECTRON	ATARI	DRAGON	ORIC	BBC
1	1	4	DALEY THOMPSON'S DECATHLON	OCEAN	SPECTRUM	•	•	•					
2	2	2	ELITE	ACORN/ST	BBC								•
3	2	5	DALEY THOMPSON'S DECATHLON	OCEAN	COMMODORE 64	•	•	•					
4	4	2	BEACH-HEAD ACCESS/U.S. GOLD		SPECTRUM	•	•	•					
5	7	4	MONTY MOLE GREMLIN GRAPHICS		SPECTRUM	•	•	•					
6	6	16	JET SET WILLY SOFTWARE PROJECTS		SPECTRUM	•	•	•					
7	5	2	SHERLOCK HOLMES MELBOURNE HOUSE		SPECTRUM	•	•	•					
*8	1	1	JET SET WILLY SOFTWARE PROJECTS		COMMODORE 64	•	•	•					
10	20	3	FRANK N. STEIN P.S.S.		SPECTRUM	•							



★8	1	JET SET WILLY SOFTWARE PROJECTS	COMMODORE 64	•
9	8	FULL THROTTLE MICROMEGA	SPECTRUM	•
10	20	FRANK. N. STEIN P.S.S.	SPECTRUM	•
11	17	CHILLER MASTERTRONIC	COMMODORE 64	•
12	15	KOKOTONI WILF ELITE	SPECTRUM	•
13	27	BEACH-HEAD ACCESS/U.S. GOLD	COMMODORE 64	•
★14	1	DARK STAR DESIGN DESIGN	SPECTRUM	•
15	12	LORDS OF MIDNIGHT BEYOND	SPECTRUM	•
16	13	SABRE WULF ULTIMATE	SPECTRUM	•
★17	1	HUNTERKILLER PROTEK	SPECTRUM	•
18	21	TORNADO LOW LEVEL VORTEX	SPECTRUM	•
★19	1	ZAXXON ACCESS/U.S. GOLD	COMMODORE 64	•
20	11	DEATH STAR INTERCEPTOR SYSTEM 3	COMMODORE 64	•
★21	1	QUO VADIS THE EDGE	COMMODORE 64	•
22	23	CHESS PSION	SPECTRUM	•
★23	1	DANGER MOUSE CREATIVE SPARKS	SPECTRUM	•
24	16	CHEQUERED FLAG PSION	SPECTRUM	•
★25	1	ALCATRAZ HARRY MASTERTRONIC	SPECTRUM	•
★26	1	FALCON PATROL II VIRGIN	COMMODORE 64	•
★27	1	HECTIC MASTERTRONIC	VIC 20	•
28	19	MONTY MOLE GREMLIN GRAPHICS	COMMODORE 64	•
★29	1	INTERNATIONAL SOCCER COMMODORE	COMMODORE 64	•
★30	1	ARABIAN NIGHTS INTERCEPTOR MICROS	COMMODORE 64	•



Look out for the brand new 'Top 10' in the Saturday edition of the DAILY MIRROR, every fortnight.
Plus the complete 'Top 30' in Computer & Video Games at your newsagent on the 16th of every month.
Information compiled by N.O.P. Market Research Ltd.

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“Brilliant...” Elementary my dear Watson.

‘Sherlock must be the most complex adventure ever created.

The creation of atmosphere is superb (more like that of a novel than a computer game) in fact playing the adventure feels more like acting than playing a computer adventure.

The characters in Sherlock behave just as they would in real life and have a very human feel to them, not only in the way they react to situations, but also in their displaying of human emotions.’

MR STERN, HERTS

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YOUR COMPUTER

‘Sherlock is an incredibly sophisticated program. The most impressive feature is the convincing way in which the leading characters go about their interrogations and how these can be followed up with meaningful discussion between the protagonists.’

CRASH

‘I have been totally enthralled with this new brilliant adventure. I thought the Hobbit was good, but the added vocabulary and the even more intelligent characters, makes Sherlock number one in my software collection.’

MR ROGERS, BATH

‘Your game is atmospheric. I have to admit it is actually real. I am referring to of course, the characters who work so independently that I am amazed at their individual characteristics every time I play the game.’

MR DEMPSTER, SCOTLAND

‘In Sherlock you can not only talk to other characters, of whom there are at least thirteen, and ask them to do things for you, but you can also interrogate them and even discuss the case.’

SINCLAIR USER

‘Rich mental imagery.’

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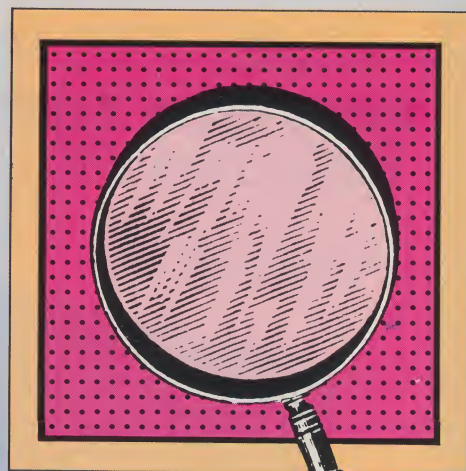
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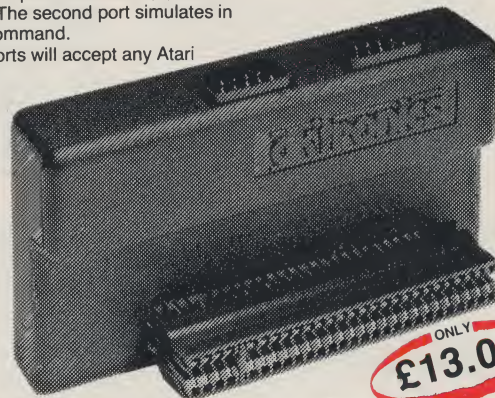
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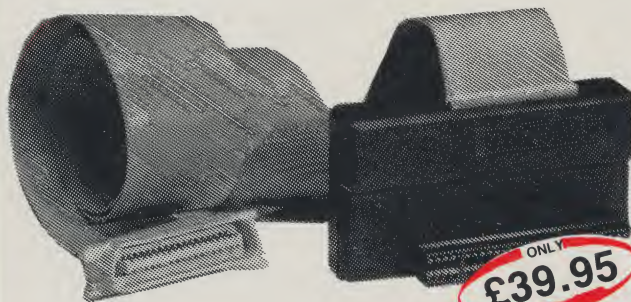
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Constructed from high density black ABS

All connections accessible at rear



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- Super positive response
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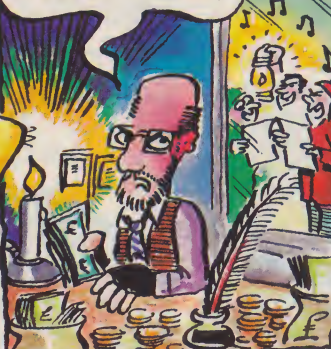
by ZK

CHRISTMAS MORNING...

THIS IS THE STORY OF A GREAT MAN, BUTCH.

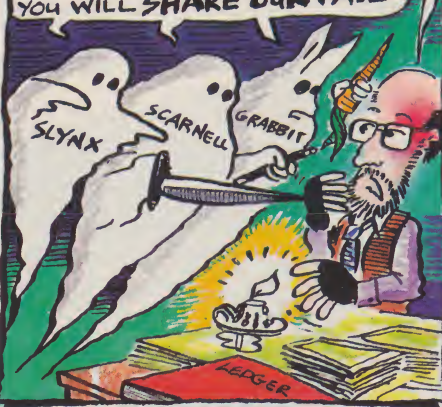


I'LL HAVE TO START ALL OVER AGAIN!



INFERNAL RACKET!

WHAAT... BEWAARE SIR CLIVE OR YOU WILL SHARE OUR FATE!



LIKE TO BUY THE RIGHTS TO BANDERBOTCH?



IT'S OVERWORK! NOBODY APPRECIATES THE PRESSURE OF BEING ME!



LATER THAT NIGHT... ONE MORE PRE-CHRISTMAS BOOM AND I CAN GO MULTINATIONAL!



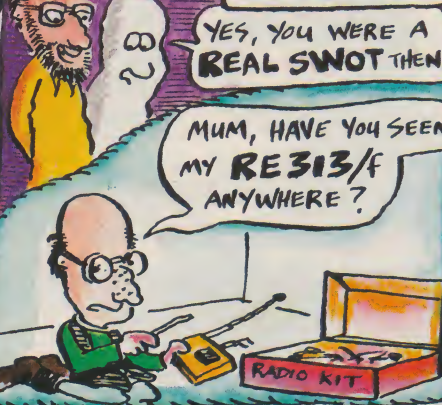
WAIT TILL THE JAPS SEE MY FIFTH GENERATION MACHINES. I'LL BE BIGGER THAN IBM!



I AM THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST! AWAKE SIR CLIVE!



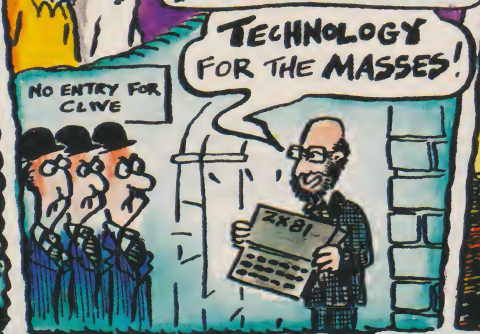
I TAUGHT MYSELF EVERYTHING!



THOSE WERE THE DAYS! THE WATCH DIDN'T WORK THOUGH DID IT?

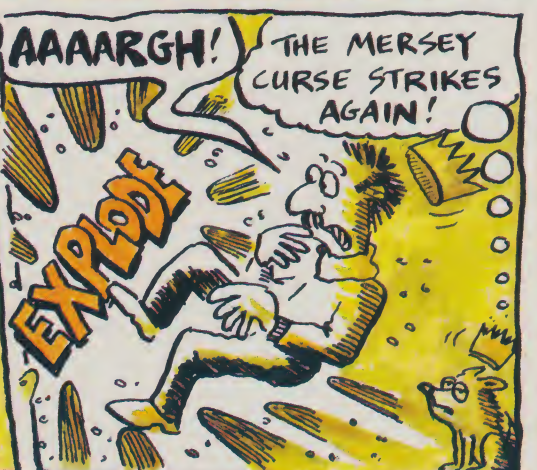
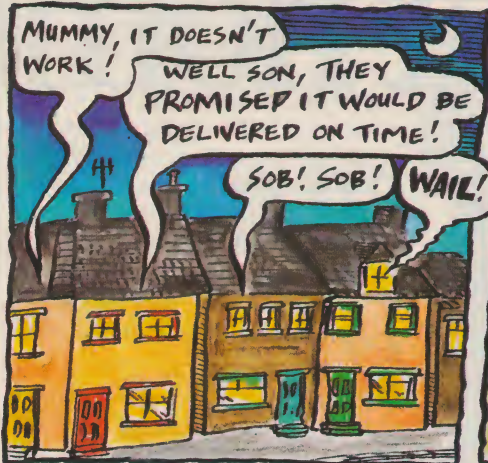
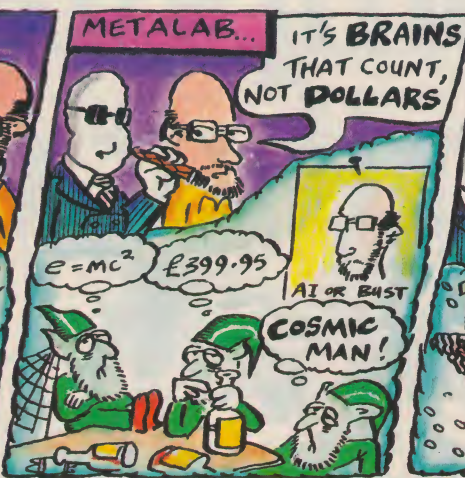


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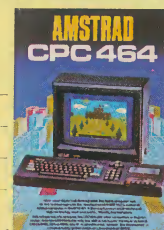
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All in the name of the game

Anton Seedy gives some xtra tipz for uninspired programs

EVERY SINCLAIR USER must have read, again and again, articles on how to write a winning computer program and has waded through pages of useful tips on ideas and formatting. By now we all have our favourite machine code sub-routines together with the realisation that practically any game with a black background looks good. Just imagine how bilious and flat-looking games would be if space was cyan. Black has the illusion of depth, but not as much depth as the minds of those who write the blurbs and titles of the latest software.

As your average micro user, I have only realised recently what all my own programs have lacked. It is something that I have never read in any manual, book or magazine and now that I can see where I have been going wrong, I wish to share my new-found knowledge with others whose programs, like mine, will now take on a new dimension. The fact is, it is all in the title.

Firstly, no matter how good or exciting your own programs are, if you have called them **Plane Attack**, **Frog Hops** or **People from Space** then forget it. Names that clearly indicate what is to be expected are a no-no. Friends will not be inspired if you bubble with excitement over your latest software masterpiece and then they sit in front of a TV screen displaying the title, **Flow-er Identification**. No matter how swift the code or how smooth the superb graphics may be, the title will have the player reaching for the exit key in no time.

Now, if you had called it **Mutant Plants from Planet X** then that title would contain three important factors which would have anyone hooked, even before they had pressed the start key.

Let us examine those three factors. To begin with, the word Mutant. That is a godsend. Not only does it fill the mind with dread and a natural desire to destroy, but because an object is mutant



it does not have to look much like what it was supposed to resemble in the first place. Nothing is more soul destroying than to have someone point at your hours-to-design sprite and say with mirth, "What's that supposed to be?" The word mutant opens players' minds to expect and accept any blob of colour that zips across the screen as quite possibly a mutant manifestation of whatever was in the title.

The word From. Simple logic tells us that if something is from somewhere then it obviously does not belong where it is now. That too will make the player want to send it back or destroy it. The word plays on people's natural prejudices and fear of the unknown.

The letter X. Considering how few

words in the English language start or contain the letter X, or Z for that matter, it is nice to see those two previously under-used letters enjoying a renaissance. The motor trade would be lost without them, as the inclusion of the letter X in the name seems to go hand-in-hand with any production car that has the addition of a couple of spot lights and a thousand pounds. Whatever happened to GT?

Z and X seem to have a mystery surrounding them. What is it about them that has a whole range of computers in their grip? Put X or Z in a title, or both, and even the most mundane software gets looked at. Why has no-one marketed a game called **Mutant Zs**

continued on page 83

GERRY ANDERSON

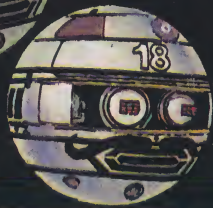
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continued from page 81

from X? The title alone would sell thousands.

Another secret ingredient for a good title is bad spelling, or a name which seems so impossible to pronounce that anyone seeing it spends the rest of the day thinking about how to say it. That will result in the program being bought out of sheer curiosity.

If a game idea is a direct lift from somewhere else, then a change of name is essential, and the more devious the better. What is the Latin for frog? Why frogs, even? Surely newts, fieldmice and hedgehogs have a need to travel. Hedgehogs... now there is an idea.

After you have settled on the title, you must next set the scene. Do not boldly state "When the question mark flashes across the screen, press any key to stop it, and check your reaction speed". Say something imaginative such as: "As you peer hopelessly into the utter blackness of outer space your blood runs cold when you consider the almost certain fate that awaits you. Out there are the creatures which will show no mercy towards your mortal life if by chance they should stumble upon your crippled Z7 Starblaster XXX Space Ship. Those Mutant Insectoid aliens

from the far distant unknown galaxy Z have pursued you through countless battles, and now, battle-scarred and weary of the fight, you prepare to face the last and decisive encounter.

"At your fingertips, on the vast weapons console set before you, are the controls which operate your Space Lasers, Photon Cannon, and Insectoidicide Spray Guns. Yet your heart is filled with dread as the controls fail to respond to your efforts to rekindle a spark of life in the flight navigation and weapons system computer.

"Suddenly you remember that your tractor beam facility still functions. You wait until an alien comes into view so you can stop it in its quest to extinguish your own life force.

"Can you do it in time?... When a Mutant Insectoid flashes across the screen, press any key to stop it and check your reaction speed."

The game is just as puerile as before, but a little expanding of the truth makes it sound a whole lot more exciting, and a bit of imagination never hurt anyone.

How to relate boring program graphics to spectacular fanciful cassette covers without the use of mind-bending drugs, will be the subject of a future lesson.



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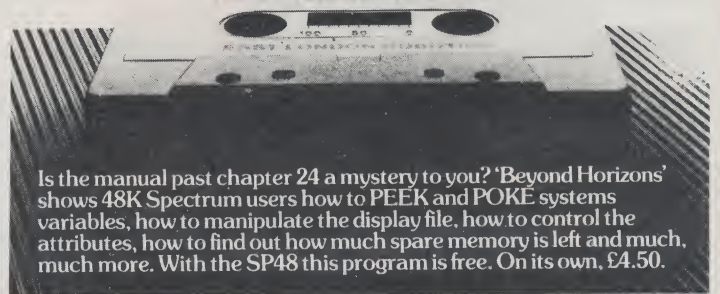
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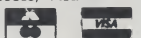
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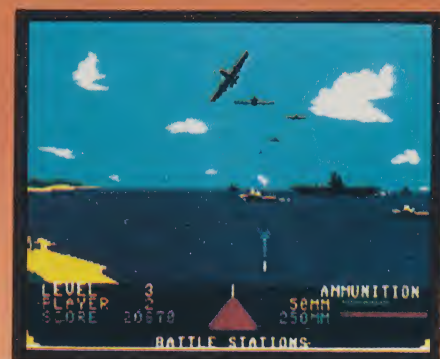
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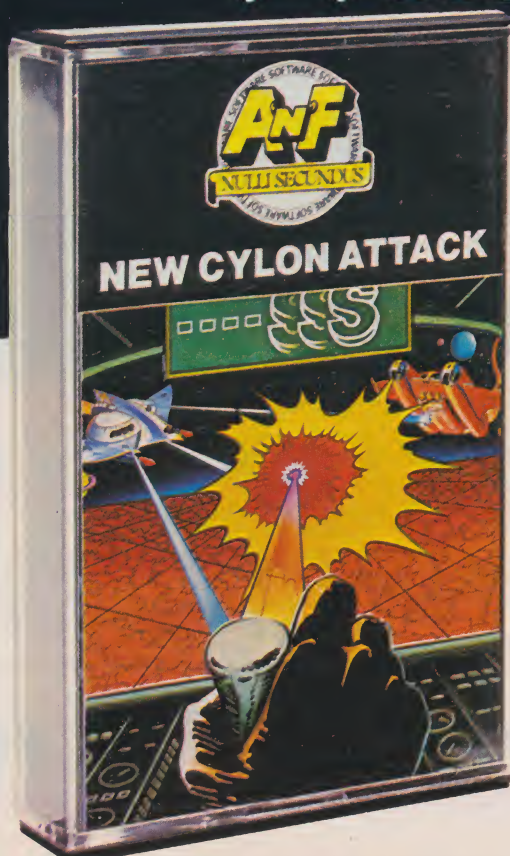
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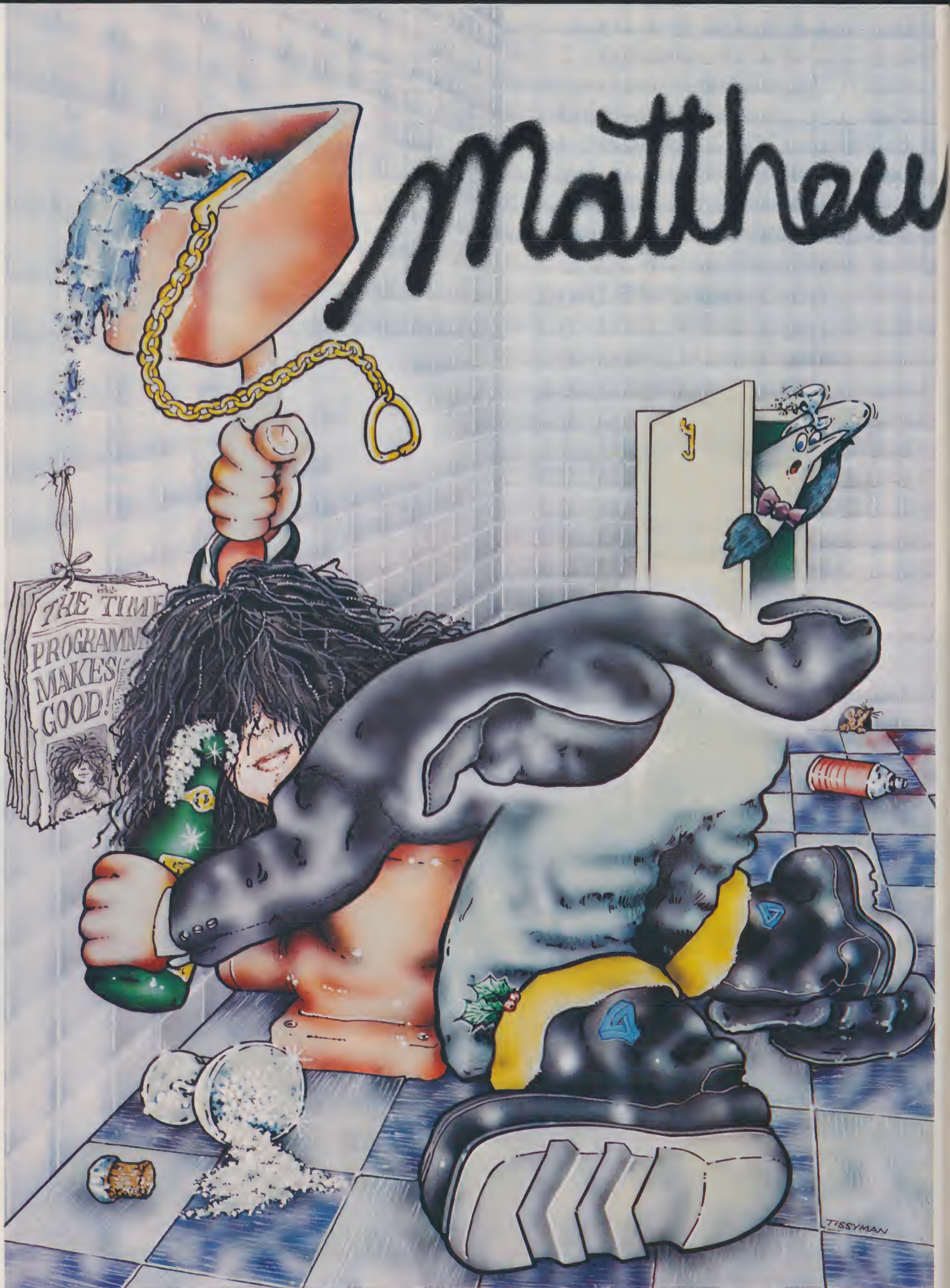
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uncaged

Matthew Smith struck gold with **Manic Miner**.
Chris Bourne beards him in his jet-set pit.

THE RECEPTION area is stylish. Sofas which engulf anybody foolhardy enough to sit upon them. Muted prints of Parisian posters. A small pile of neatly stacked brown paper parcels. Clean carpets. No empty gin bottles.

Matthew Smith, the creator of **Manic Miner** and **Jet Set Willy**, seems light years away. All is order and calm. Where are the chaotic by-products of the mind which created the animated toilet seats, the pirouetting rabbits, the eternal off-licence or the kangaroo above The Vat. The madness is here, somewhere, beneath the surface. But where?

Alan Maton enters, tall and nervous, always in motion. He is the managing director of Software Projects, if such titles have meaning. His looks are faintly reminiscent of a youthful Jimmy Hill. He does not look like a managing director.

Inside his office, chaos begins to surface. It is the usual office chaos of overflowing desks and not enough ashtrays.

"It's not a smokeless zone" says Alan. "I don't think it's even a nuclear-free zone. There should be an ashtray somewhere."

Alan hunts for an ashtray. The coffee machine supplies a substitute in the form of a plastic cup. The coffee machine claims to be unable to produce coffee. "It's lying" says Alan. "How many sugars?"

Alan produces a cassette of **Jet Set Willy** for the Commodore 64, a new conversion of the program. The latest Software Projects cassettes are manufactured in blue plastic. "Nobody else does them" says Alan. "You have to get them ordered specially." The idea is to prevent piracy of the commercial sort which passes off duplicated cassettes under similar packaging to the original product. Alan rummages about for the

finished product. Even the transparent section of tape at the beginning of the cassette has the magic words printed there. You may gather that Software Projects takes piracy seriously.

Alan's sense of humour becomes more overt as the conversation continues. Liverpool people are notorious for their sense of humour. It is a process of acclimatisation, of course. If reporters were directly confronted with Matthew Smith there might be trouble.

Eventually, Alan decides that the time has come. "Let's go and see if they've cleaned the straw out of Matthew's cage" he says.

Matthew Smith lives in the zoo, along with the seven other contract programmers employed by Software Projects. The zoo is an area of the building set aside for the programmers. It is not at all plush, quite unlike the reception area. To reach it you must climb a concrete staircase, and then wait for someone to unlock the door. Alan has a key, of course. The animals respect him.

If Alan is the Head Keeper, Matthew is the star exhibit, the money-spinner. He looks up from a conversation with two other inmates as Alan approaches. Alan explains about the interview.

"Do you want to do the interview?" asks Alan.

"No" says Matthew, tossing back his head and laughing, his long black hair rearranging itself to hang down in the new position. He doesn't really mean it.

Matthew was born in Penge, in Surrey, that butt of a hundred jokes about suburban life. When he was seven his family moved to Wallasey. He attended the local comprehensive, Mosslands on the Marsh. He learned nothing about computers, and left at sixteen.

His first computer was a Christmas present in 1979, when he was a mere stripling of twelve or thirteen. "It was a 4K TRS-80. I had been asking for one

every day for six months, because I wanted to take it to bits to find out how it worked. I was very into electronics."

Truth to tell, he looks today as if he was once into electronics. His lank hair hangs down to his collarbone. He wears a white, evidently drip-dry, nylon shirt and indeterminate trousers. He has no socks, just a pair of heavy sandals. He is clearly a one-time electrician. Or an off-duty journalist.

"I didn't take it to bits because it already worked quite well," says Matthew. "I learned Level One Basic on it, which was no use for anything at all. I started learning machine code. It was tough. There were virtually no books at all, except a really heavy one by Rodney Zaks."

Having discovered the delights of Level One 'Useless' Basic he gave up writing arcade games. "It was two years before I got anything out of it. The first games were shoot-em-up games. That was what everybody played then."

The break came in a shop. The local Tandy shop played host to teenagers on a Saturday morning in those days, encouraging them to come in and program or play with the computers. It was fun for the kids, and good publicity for Tandy, who could demonstrate that 'even' children could program their machines.

"People say software houses in Liverpool are to do with unemployment," says Alan. "It's not true. It's to do with people. Like the Tandy store, and Micro-Digital, getting people in there hacking away. Without them there wouldn't have been much in the Liverpool area."

Liverpool is indeed a sort of Silicon Valley of software houses, with Software Projects, Bug-Byte, the now defunct Imagine, Voyager and even personnel from companies not based in Liverpool, such as Ocean Software. Hit

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Squad readers will be familiar with Steve Kelly, Chris Urquart and Mike Singleton, all Liverpoolians.

Matthew knew a friend who frequented the Tandy shop, Chris Cannon, now a Software Projects programmer. Chris Cannon knew Eugene Evans, who was writing programs for Bug-Byte. Eugene was later to become the star programme at Imagine.

"Chris managed to con one of the new-fangled Spectrums out of Bug-Byte," says Matthew who, unable to afford a Spectrum, asked for one on loan too and said he would write a game. He showed the company what he had done on the TRS 80 and was offered a freelance contract for three games. The first was **Styx**.

"Trouble was, I ran out of memory halfway through. It was only a 16K Spectrum. That's why there are lots of empty gaps in the game. It was a shoot-em-up game loosely based on Tutankhamun. I wrote it on the Tandy for the Spectrum, and wrote a routine to make a Spectrum read Tandy tapes. I kept dreaming of a disc drive."

**Sick humour:
"The animated
toilet seats were
my brother's idea.
He was only three
at the time."**

Thus the Manic Miner legend was born. Alan Maton, then despatch manager for Bug-Byte, wanted a game similar in concept to **Donkey Kong**, which had been an enormous success in amusement arcades. Matthew suggested a game with eight or maybe even 16 screens. Such an arcade game had not been attempted before, not with fixed layout screens. "The name was Alan's," says Matthew. "Eugene said 'I don't think it will work,' which proves what he knows."

Matthew got to work on Manic Miner, using a Model III Tandy, with colour and sound. "I did 16 screens, and then worked out a way of adding another four. It was finished in August 1983." The game used core code routines for most of the basic action, but special routines were introduced for particular events on each screen. "It upset the people trying to do a conversion to another machine," says Matthew. "People working on the Solar

Power Generator become sick."

Yes. Sick. Matthew's games are distinctive for their sense of humour.

"It started with a skit on Eugene Evans," says Matthew, reclining on his yellow foam mattress and smiling benevolently at the thought of Eugene. "The animated toilet seats were my little brother's idea. He wanted toilet seats in the game." Anthony Smith was three at the time.

Matthew's modesty is disturbing. Is that all there is to it, a few ideas borrowed from elsewhere? "No. I was fed up with little green monsters."

Alan decided to leave Bug Byte and set up on his own account. For six weeks he ran Acme, part of the Creative Technology Group set up by Imagine overlord Bruce Everiss. He still receives letters from lawyers as to who owned what and who was paid what. "I was only there for six weeks," moans Alan, plaintively.

Matthew also wanted to leave Bug Byte. According to him, there was a small matter of royalties owing. "I would have been quite happy to leave Manic Miner with them but they bent the contract," he says. Alan explains. "The royalties were to be paid for the duplication of cassettes, not their sale. The contract was only a few sentences. They were almost verbal agreements in those days."

"They ran up a huge debt," says Matthew. "It was £25,000 at one time. I kept asking for some of it. Whenever I called in they either fobbed me off or refused to see me. Eventually we agreed to cancel the agreement. I had sold Styx to them but they only had a licence to produce Manic Miner, which I cancelled."

Whatever the rights or wrongs of the business, and business in Liverpool certainly seems unnecessarily complicated, Smith joined up with Alan Maton and his wife Soo to found Software Projects. Liverpool entrepreneur Tommy Barton joined them and later Colin Stokes moved over from Imagine, following the notorious bugging incident in which his telephone was tapped.

Alan is anxious to dispel ideas that Liverpool is a sort of Silicon Dallas. "It's a very friendly industry. There are no hard feelings between me and Tony Badon at Bug Byte, for instance. As a matter of fact, we're having a meal together. We're good friends."

Matthew settles back and talks about Jet Set Willy. Jet Set Willy is said to be the biggest selling computer game in Britain.

Work on Jet Set Willy began even before Matthew had left Bug-Byte. He does not like giving away many of his programming secrets, but it will be a surprise to some to learn that the music, which plays continuously throughout the game, does not use an interrupt.

"The first instruction in the program is 'disable all interrupts' " he claims. "It's just move-a-tiny-little-bit, BEEP-a-tiny-little-bit. Have you noticed, the more lives you lose, the worse the music gets?" Few will have noticed. The music is unutterably disgusting anyway, a maniac, stunted version of *If I Were A Rich Man*, even worse than the original.

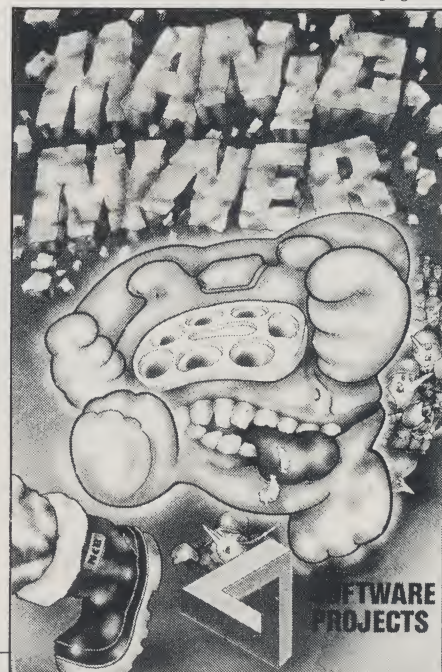
Bugs crept into the game, because of the pressure from distributors and retailers for the new game. That is the reason for the secrecy surrounding the third and final part of the trilogy.

Bugs include the double score for some of the objects and the major problem which relocates quantities of monsters after a player has passed through the Attic. Software Projects originally announced that this was a deliberate ploy to make the return journey through the house much more difficult. "Great, isn't it?" grins Alan. "There's no such thing as a bug in a game."

The humour became wilder. Some of the names for the rooms are obscure to the point of perversity. Was it true that 'We must perform a Quirkafleeg' derives from a cartoon in that comic beloved of hippies, *The Furry Freak Brothers*? "Yes" says Matthew. "I've been reading those comics for years, Furry Freak, and *Fat Freddy's Cat*. So does Alan."

"You told me it was a Norwegian Folk Dance," says Alan, accusingly. He

continued on page 92



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Keypanel Kits—the first add on for your Spectrum

continued from page 90

does an impression of a massage from the Swedish Prime Minister.

It is indeed the zoo, and no matter how involved the conversation becomes one is inescapably drawn back to it. Some people never leave the zoo. Stuart Fotherington, a punkish leather'n'studs programmer, has not been home for days. "They know their job's on the line," says Alan. "People see everybody wandering around and think, they're idle. But as long as they produce a program, we don't care how they do it. Some of them sleep here. Come on, Stuart, when did you last go home?"

Atic Atac: "Closer to what Jet Set Willy should have been than Jet Set Willy as it is."

Stuart considers. "Saturday," he says, uncertainly. Today is Tuesday. "They've all got keys," says Alan. "I haven't got a key," says Matthew. "Well go and get one," says Alan. Matthew snorts.

Rumours abound that the next game is **Willy Meets the Taxman** with Willy forced to pay up for his Jet Set Willy lifestyle. No decisions have been taken, says Alan.

Certainly the new game will be based around the further exploits of Willy. Matthew wants to have a hardware-based game, involving some sort of extra ROM chip which could be used for programming applications as well as forming an integral part of the new game.

In the meantime the company is releasing a new game, **Lode Runner**, for the Spectrum. It will be another levels and ladders game but with the facility to design your own screens as well as use the ones provided. The graphics are clear but simple, with blocks to be collected and white ladders connecting layers of brickwork. Alan explains how wonderful the game is. It is being marketed under licence from Broederbond, an American software house which has had a great success with the game.

For most people, however, the success of Software Projects centres around Matthew and his unorthodox imagination. He is now the most famous programmer in the country, the embodiment of the otherwise spurious

myth of the schoolboy millionaire.

What does it feel like to be a cult? "A what?" frowns Matthew. "Am I? You only become a star when people ask for your autograph."

"They do," Alan informs him. "They ask for signed posters." Matthew pretends to look puzzled. "I forge your signature," explains Alan, helpfully.

"I try not to be conscious of it" says Matthew, self-consciously, eyes glued to the table. "Stardom doesn't really appeal. Too much hassle. I happen to be doing something that sells well. Anything that is really interesting to do should make money."

Alan explains his ideal game is something like MUD, the Essex University Multi-User Dungeon in which many players can participate simultaneously and interact. Matthew says he thinks we are approaching the sort of game he would like to write. "It won't be written on the Spectrum first," he says. "We'll get someone to convert it."

Matthew's lifestyle is experimental. Alan says Matthew has discovered the sixties. "I don't do a lot" says Matthew. "Computing was my only hobby but I don't do that any more. I like partying, getting drunk and falling over a lot." He explains how he went to a nightclub recently dressed in a toga, 'as an experiment'. "Will they let you back again?" says Alan. "Not in a toga," says Matthew darkly.

Unlike many programmers, Matthew is still a fan of computer games. "If I had to be shut in a room with one Spectrum tape it would have to be **Atic Atac**" he says. "It's closer to what Jet Set Willy should have been than Jet Set Willy as it is."

Unusually, Matthew does not entirely approve of games, although he plays and makes a living from them. "I think it is harmful playing games — as well as writing them. Computers are going to have to stop giving out gamma radiation, keyboards have to go. Computers should be totally adaptable machines. I can see them being used — well, in a toothbrush, to keep the bristles at the right angle."

Matthew expands on his view of the future. "Things get hairy when we get machines which are more intelligent than us," he says. "I keep going on to Alan and Tommy when they are planning to take over the world. I want to lead a simple life. I think a lot of people do. The world can't sustain itself. The time comes when we can't all be comfortable and happy and warm and



fed. We have to blow ourselves up or find a way of being contented. There is not enough land. True communists are people who live in communes, villages, tribes. I'd like to live like that, but always with the communications we've got. There should be an end to cities. Cities should have walls around them to keep the city in."

Matthew contrasts himself with that other star programmer, Jeff Minter, whose Grid Wars series for Commodore machines rapidly achieved cult status.

"What I don't like about Minter games is they're not a simulation of any kind of real problem. I'm not into simulated violence. It's not really that much fun."

Minter claims Matthew's games are boring because there is a single route to success. "The single route doesn't present new problems," says Matthew, "but one fixed problem allows it to be a real scorcher. It's bad to encourage violence."

What about the foot that crushes Willy if he loses? Is that a violent image? "No," says Matthew, firmly. "The foot is comedy. Comedy is important to negate violence."

Matthew returns to his work, and we take our leave of the zoo. Alan telephones for a cab. The coffee machine produces one last cup of murky instant. Alan answers a call. "No," he says, "there's nobody here. You'll have to call again in the morning."

"I have to be my own security guard," he jokes, replacing the receiver. "Here's the cab. It should only take fifteen minutes to the station. Nice to have met you. Goodbye."

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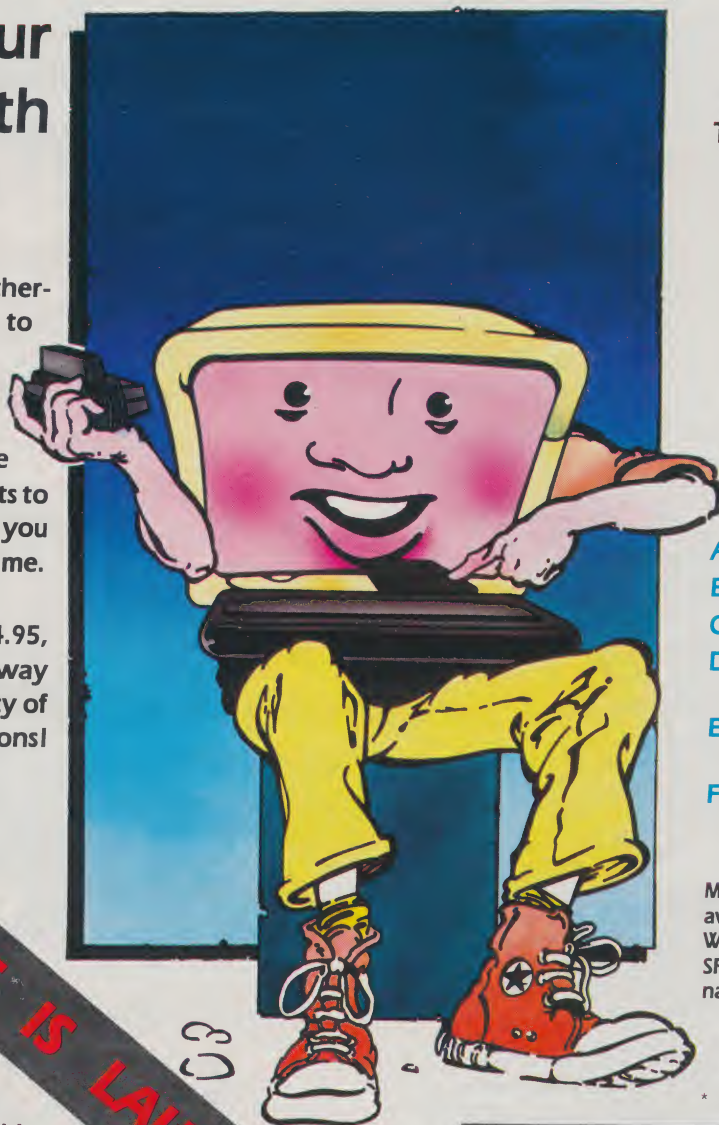
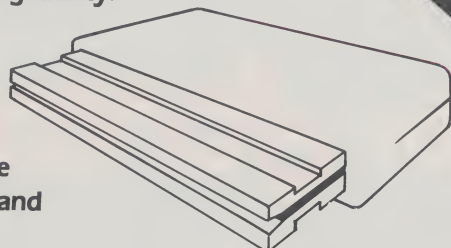
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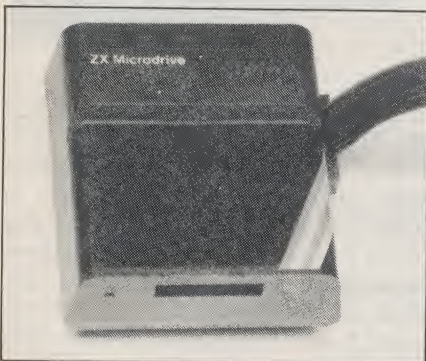
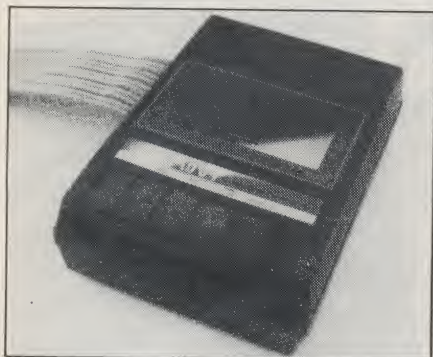
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IT IS NOW just over a year since the introduction of the microdrive, and in that time it has done more to inhibit the serious use of the Spectrum than any other add-on. Before you put pen to paper and write to us, an explanation is perhaps in order.

Users of the BBC, Commodore and other home computers expect to be able to add a fast storage medium — disc, hobbit and so on — to their computer and to be able to buy software in that format. There is an accepted format for both interfaces and recording medium and therefore software houses can develop programs knowing that they will be able to sell them.

Racing to the tape

The announcement of the microdrive, roughly a year before it actually saw the light of day, inhibited manufacturers from developing a standard, as Kempston had done with its joystick interface. The stories of unreliability, unfounded or not, also inhibited software houses as they could not ensure that any programs sold on cartridge would always work.

Finally, the price, scarcity and difficulty of duplicating microdrive cartridges gave few writers the confidence to market programs on cartridge. At the time of writing the number of programs available on cartridge can be counted on one hand, with a few more that are 'microdrive compatible', and none which were specially written for it other than copiers.

Despite that the microdrive is undoubtedly a remarkable device. It makes available a form of fast storage which many people would otherwise be unable to afford and, within limits, provides a usable system. It is only recently that it has been readily available and so perhaps now it will be accepted.

Because of those problems and delays, other manufacturers felt that they could do better and so there are now many other fast storage devices available, with more due to be released. While some are undoubtedly better, and more expensive, than the microdrive they all share one common problem, and that is that because there are so many different systems it is largely left to the user to convert software to run on them. With the ever present spectre of software piracy few software houses make their programs open to inspection and, due to the fact that most of the systems take up valuable memory space, some programs can not be converted even if you are able to break into them.

Your own programs, however, should be easily convertible; you are unlikely to write Basic programs in excess of 35-40K, and if you are able to write in machine code then you should be able to move it to an unused part of memory. The problem with commercial tapes is that the usual format is to have a Basic loader program which lowers RAMTOP and then loads a screen display followed by some machine code. It

is the lowering of RAMTOP which causes the problems.

A BASIC program unusually starts at address 23755 — chapter 24 of the Spectrum manual suggests that you enter CLEAR 23800 (i.e. lower RAMTOP to that address) to see what happens when the computer runs out of memory. In order to be able to enter a short line of Basic you will need about 100-200 bytes of memory, so the minimum address to which you can usefully CLEAR is 24000, giving approximately 100 spare bytes. With the more popular commercial games it is quite common to CLEAR to 24000-25000 and so you can see that there is not much space left. With a program written for the 16K machine it is not uncommon to clear down to 23900. The simple answer is that the less memory the system takes the more programs you will be able to convert.

A good indication of that is the sector size. With microdrive and disc the data is held in blocks known as sectors. Those blocks are loaded into memory by the system one at a time and then moved to where they are required. For example, with microdrive the sectors are 512 bytes long, so you will need the operating system of about 100 bytes plus 512 for the sector and 83 to hold the additional channel information — say, 700 bytes spare or a minimum clear of 24700, more if you want to use two drives.

Another problem may be that of speed. Almost anything is quicker than cassette; a commercial 48K game takes about five minutes to load, but the method of storage will affect the speed. A microdrive uses a continuous loop of tape and so if the sector you want is next on the tape it will be very quick. If it has just passed that sector then the microdrive will have to go all the way round the tape, and so take longer.

A disc, however, normally stores the data in a number of concentric circles, known as tracks, and each track is divided into sectors. As the disc is spun very quickly those sectors are readily available. Overall, the time it takes to find a sector is largely determined by the time it takes to move from track to track.

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Mass Storage

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This can be as little as 3ms, 3/1000ths of a second.

There is, finally, the problem of reliability. If you are writing your own programs or using the Spectrum for business then the system must be 100 percent reliable. That can only be judged with time and any comment on a new system can therefore only be an educated guess.

The first system looked at was the Challenge Sprint. That is a fairly new system and also the most straightforward. It is, simply, a normal cassette mechanism which has been converted to run the tape at four times the normal speed of 15/16 ips, (inches per second).

A flexible lead plugs into the back of the Spectrum and, on the back of the cassette, there is an extension port. It takes its power from the Spectrum. The Sprint recognises all the normal tape commands, whether used from Basic or code, and therefore is very simple to operate. To load a tape you use the usual LOAD "" command and press play.

The advantage of the system is that you do not have to convert any of your programs. The only programs which it would be unable to load would be those which use their own, non-standard, loading routine such as **Halls of the Things**, or those where the time between the sections of program is very important.

The reduction in loading time is good; **Scrabble**, by Psion, which normally takes four minutes and 48 seconds to load, now takes only 1.16 minutes. Saving a straight 64K block took 1.15 minutes.

To have a means of measuring the speed of the different systems the following program has been used:

```
10 FOR n=1 TO 30
```

```
20 SAVE ("test"+STR$ n) CODE
```



```
32000,200
```

```
30 NEXT n
```

with line 20 changed as required. When saving with the Sprint it takes 2.36 minutes, and on loading 2.37 minutes.

The disadvantages of the system are largely the same as those at a normal cassette. You cannot control the cassette motor from software and so you cannot load selected programs without correctly positioning the tape by hand, or running through the whole tape. A note must be kept of the tape counter in order to find a program and, due to the speed, that must be very precise.

The cassette does not have any volume or tone controls and so when loading your own programs it is a case of all or nothing — if a program does not load then it is not going to. You cannot then try to load it using a normal cassette recorder without disconnecting the Sprint as it expects all tape commands to relate to itself. All the commercial tapes which were tested, however, loaded without problems.

The only other possible problem is the speed itself. Cassettes are not designed to be played at the speed at which the unit operates and so, despite having a good system which accelerates

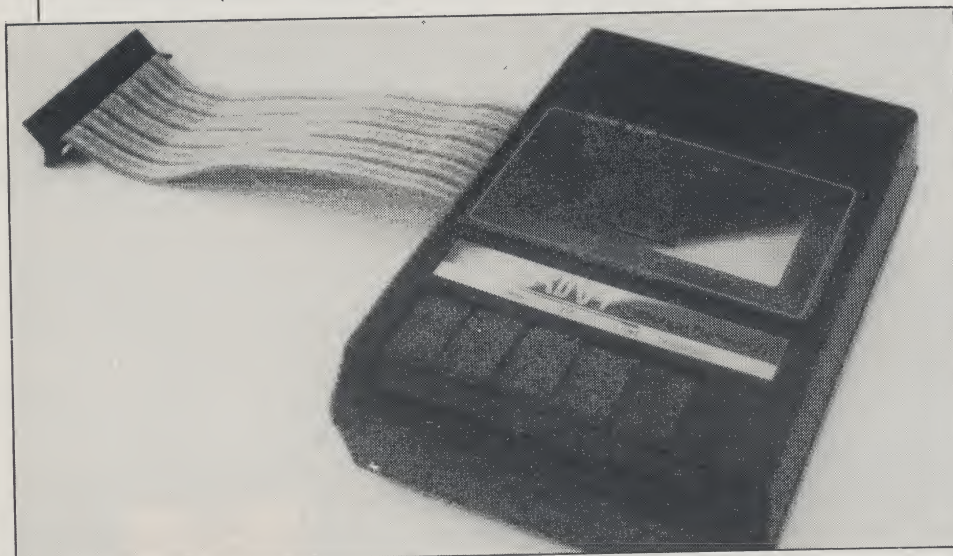
the tape to playing speed, when using Stop, Fast Forward or Rewind sudden speed changes occur and the tape is liable to stretching. The only way round that would be to only use those commands when you are certain that there is nothing on the tape at that point. It will Autostop from Play at the end of a tape.

Surprisingly, some people want to use the Sprint with their microdrives. Early versions were not compatible with but that is now being corrected. When ordering it would be best to state if you intend to use it with a drive or not.

If all you want to do is load commercial tapes faster than normal and you do not want to worry about converting then this is the system for you. It is easy to use and provided the above points are remembered it should prove reliable.

The Sinclair microdrive has a number of good and bad points but it is the least expensive way of adding a fast storage/random access device to the Spectrum. Sinclair is selling currently a package of Interface 1, microdrive and four software packages for £99.95. The software is **Tasword II** and **Masterfile**, both of which are easily convertible anyway, and **Ant Attack** and **Games Designer** from Quicksilva. An introductory program and spare cartridge are also included.

The amount of space taken up by the operating system, and the increased length of the commands, have caused some users to experience difficulties in converting tape-based programs to run on it. Some games, such as **Jet Set Willy**, are easily convertible while others, such as **Sabre Wulf** or **Scrabble** present difficulties. In some cases it should be possible to modify the Basic loader program, either by standard memory saving techniques — such as



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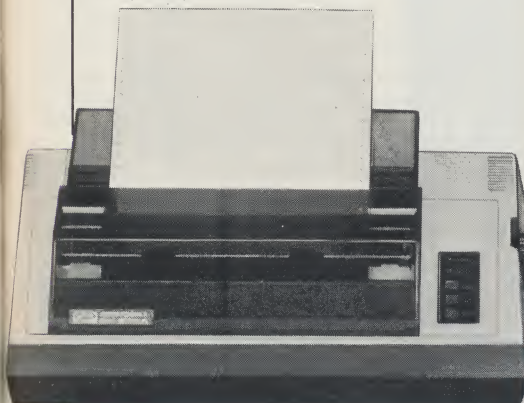
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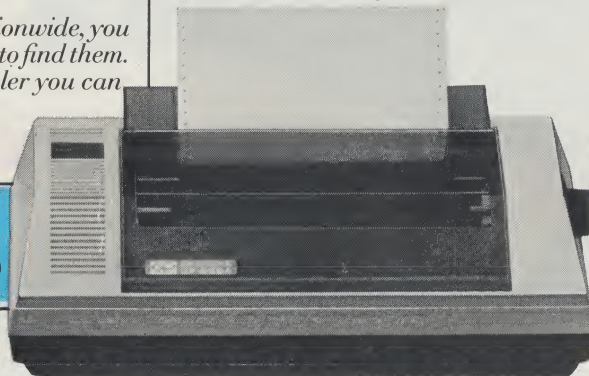
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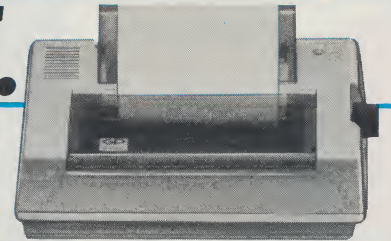
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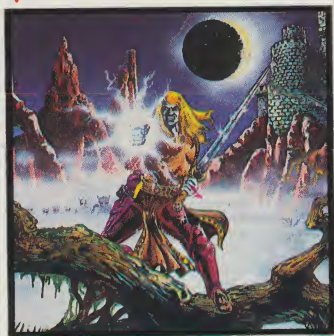
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continued from page 98

using VAL or PI/PI to cut down the number of bytes used by numbers — or by loading the Basic in more than one part. If you are able to write your own machine code routines then a system of using the screen as a buffer, moving the Stack Pointer and then a block move will work in most cases.

Each of the cartridges can hold a minimum of 85K of data. That can sometimes be increased by repeatedly formatting it, each Format command taking 24 seconds.

Using the test program given above the microdrive takes 3.42 minutes to save and only 14 seconds to load. If, however, line 10 is changed to:

```
10 FOR n=30 TO 1 STEP -1
```

so that the sectors are not loaded in sequence, it takes 3.15 minutes. Erasing also takes quite a long time as a number of checks are made by the system when that is done. Using the test program with line 20 set to Erase it takes 3.46 minutes. Simpler commands are much quicker, a 64K block is saved in 18 seconds and CAT performs in only 7.5 seconds.

As well as the usual tape based commands for BASIC, CODE and DATA it is also possible to open files to the drive and send information to it. That can be very useful but it presents two problems. Every channel which is opened takes up memory and the data can only be accessed serially, so if you want the last piece of information on the file you have to Read all the way through it. That can be time consuming.

To run a microdrive you also need Interface 1. That gives you a RS232 port, useful for running a modem or printer and a network facility. Both are very useful additions but unfortunately most low-cost printers use Centronics rather than RS232 and the add-on kit for an Epson printer, for example, is in the region of £70. Moreover, while Spectrums can be networked there is some confusion as to whether or not the system will work with a QL, and if not that will mean additional software, on top of the 276 bytes used by the system.

Whether you love or hate the microdrive it cannot be ignored. If your pocket will not stretch any further then it is worth consideration, but bear in mind that it cannot be used on any other computer and so when you upgrade your system it will no longer be of any use. The manual supplied with it is not up to the usual high Sinclair standard, so you would do well to get one of

the many books published about it. *Mastering Your ZX Microdrive*, by Andrew Pennel, Sunshine Books, or *Spectrum Microdrive Book* by Dr Ian Logan, Melbourne House, can both be recommended. The former contains many useful programs and a list of ROM bugs, the latter was written by the co-author of the ROM and contains a wealth of information.

The newest addition to the range of fast storage devices is the Wafadrive from Rotronics. That is an unashamed

Other useful features are LOAD *, which loads the first program on the wafer, ERASE *"te*" which will erase all programs starting with te and SAVE # "test" which will overwrite an existing program called test. That is useful when developing a program as usually any attempt to save using an existing name will cause an error to protect your programs from accidental erasure. CLS* will reset the ink, paper and border colours to the start up black and white.



attempt to beat the microdrive in terms of the facilities it offers. For the price of £129.99 it offers two drives, Centronics and RS232 ports and, as an introductory offer, a word processing package, **Spectral Writer** by Softek, which in many ways rivals Tasword II.

On power up the Spectrum behaves as usual until the Wafadrive Operating System (WOS) is called. That is done by entering NEW *, at which point a copyright message is displayed and the system is ready to run. The syntax of the WOS has been well thought out, the normal Spectrum commands are used with the addition of the * to indicate the wafadrive rather than tape in the form: SAVE * "test"

That applies to all the normal tape commands except DATA. CODE can be made to autorun with the addition of a third parameter. The save name is converted to upper case by the system.

A system of defaults is used so the above line would save to the default drive; if that was the A drive and you wanted to save to the B drive the command:

```
SAVE * "b:test"
```

would be used. The default drive can be easily changed using CAT # "b:".

It is not possible to save DATA in the usual way. A system of channels and streams, as used on the microdrive, are used with information being PRINTed to it and INPUT back; INKEY\$ can also be used. MOVE is used to copy programs from one drive to the other. That will not work with programs which have been protected. FORMAT is used to format a new wafer and also to set the baud rate of the RS232 channel.

When the WOS is initialised it sets aside an area of memory for its own use. That contains a directory of both drives, a 1K buffer into which the sectors of data are loaded and space for the variables used by the system. That takes up 2292 bytes, each additional channel opened takes 1044 bytes and the Centronics interface a further 11 bytes. With so much space taken up, the number of commercial programs which can be easily converted is very small. Fortunately, Rotronics are working on filing and spreadsheet programs for business users and hope to be able to release games in the near future.

Wafers are available in three sizes — 16K, 64K and 128K — and the smaller the capacity the quicker the system will

continued on page 102

Mass Storage

continued from page 101

work. Each wafer contains a continuous loop of tape and is designed so that a metal tab protects the tape when the wafer is removed from the drive.

When testing the system for speed a 64K wafer was used, being middle of the range and most useful to 48K Spectrum owners. Formatting the wafer takes 2.10 minutes; 73 sectors are found, one used for the directory leaving 72K available for storage. A maximum of 32 files can be kept on a wafer due to the design of the directory.

Using the test program it takes 14.55 minutes to save, due to the tape doing one complete revolution per save. It also gives an out-of-screen error after 22 saves as the drive prints what it is saving on screen. Loading in sequence takes 14.30 minutes and 14.08 when using a STEP of -1; when erasing it also takes 14.08 minutes. If the wild-card facility is used, i.e. ERASE *"*" it only takes 29 seconds because the tape only has to make one revolution. It would therefore seem that with a 64K wafer the minimum LOAD/SAVE time is about 30 seconds; a 64K block takes 40 seconds to save.

The manual supplied with the drive is well laid out and informative about

the drives but lacking in respect of the ports. Apart from setting the baud rate it does not explain how to alter any parameters when printing. It appears that codes below 32 are not sent, other than 13 and/or 10 except by using CHR\$, codes 32 to 164 are sent as normal and all tokens, codes 165 and above, are expanded. That is adequate for most simple printing but some modems require parity and stop bits to be set (or not) on RS232 signals and printers can use differing line feed settings.

Overall the system has much to offer, proving more reliable than microdrive due to the design of the wafers, but the memory usage is very high and its speed slow compared to other available systems. It will probably be popular with business users where reliability is paramount and the Spectral Writer program is a good indication of what can be achieved. It is very similar to Tasword II in operation, whose text files can be loaded directly, with additional features such as page headings and numbers. It is rather quicker although some of the features are not so convenient, it tends to work on the text file globally rather than by paragraphs and so when justifying the file you cannot do so selectively. It can give odd results, as is found when

there are two words on a line at the end of a paragraph and the file is justified. The words are moved to the far left and right rather than both to the left margin.

Provided you do not want to convert your own programs or can use the machine code method of using the screen, and you are not worried by the lack of speed then the two drives and ports are very useful. If you use the MOVE command to make back-up copies of wafers be prepared though to take a long coffee break.

Next month we look at some of the floppy disc systems available for the Spectrum. Both 3in and 5 1/4in systems are now available including one which we shall be revealing exclusively and which will raise a few eyebrows. We will also include a table detailing the performance of all the drives now available.

Challenge Sprint, £69.95 from Challenge Research Ltd, 218 High Street, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire.

Sinclair Microdrive Expansion Pack, £99.95 from Sinclair Research, Stanhope Road, Camberley, Surrey.

Wafadrive, £129.99 from Rotronics, Santosh House, Marlborough Trading Estate, West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP11 2LB.

University Software

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All programs are datafile compatible with Matrix Operations program in UNIMAX package. Data matrix capacity examples (columns by rows): **CBM-64:** 2x1250, 5x700, 10x380, **BBC-B:** 2x750, 5x400, 10x200, **48K Spectrum:** 2x1800, 5x900, 10x500. **CBM-64 (disk/cass):** £85, **BBC-B (disk/cass):** £85, **48K Spectrum (mdvcart/cass):** £60

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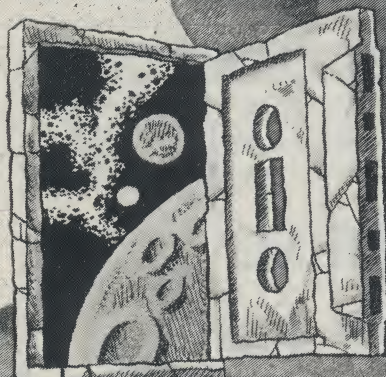
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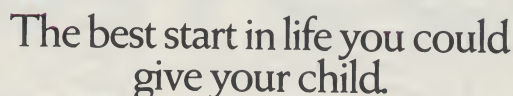
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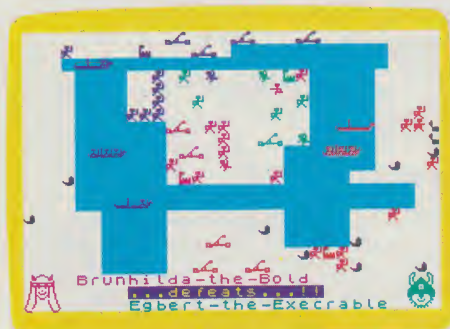
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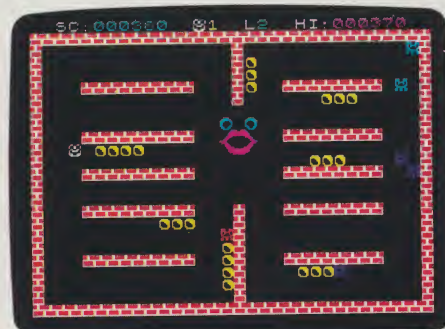
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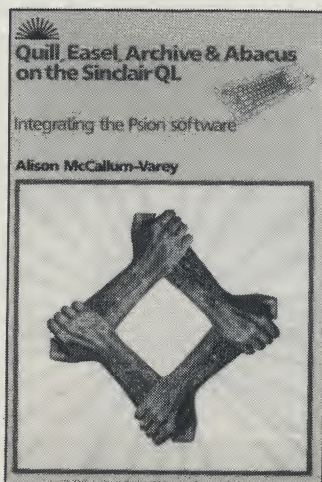
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Simulating life on the QL

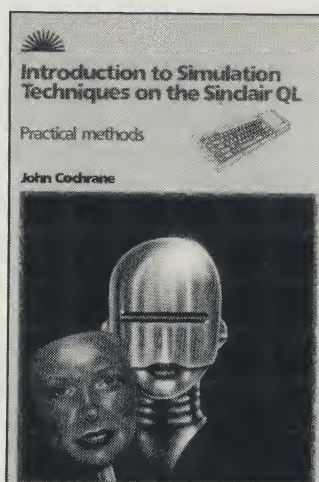
TWO OF THE BEST books about the QL on the market have nothing to do with SuperBASIC, QDOS, or 68000 machine code programming.

The first, *Quill, Easel, Archive and Abacus on the Sinclair QL* is near to those topics but it goes one step beyond showing how each of the commands work for each of the packages. Instead it shows how each of them can be used with each other to create an environment in which complex business storage systems combine the graphics power of Easel, the word processing capabilities of Quill, the numeric brains of Abacus and the storage capacity of Archive.

The author, Alison McCallum-Varey has, in some places, made explanations and examples easier to



understand than the Sinclair supplied manual and gives practical techniques for incorporating the software packages into any business. If any business person is not convinced about the power of the QL when they start to read the book they will be by



the time they have finished.

Subtitled Integrating the Psion Software, the book is not split into separate sections, each giving an overview of one of the packages, but it does have a definite pattern which can be seen both while reading it and by

studying the contents page. It almost shares the same pyramidal structure evident within the Psion software. You can follow the text at any level of understanding and skip over those parts which are not yet easily accessible without losing the thread of the author's argument.

The second book, *Introduction to Simulation Techniques on the Sinclair QL*, may seem a strange title to bring out for a relatively new machine.

John Cochrane, the author, presents the usually complex subject in a digestible, albeit unimaginative, style which most beginners should understand. He does not simply regurgitate all the general information which can be found about simulation and emulation techniques, and the advantages of the QL are heavily outlined.

The examples centre mainly around engineering but probability and so-called machine-exhibited intelligence is also covered.

Home and business simulations are included. At home Cochrane shows how to calculate and budget while at work future trends analysis can be done using the listings produced within the text. For those interested in developing their own techniques information is given on determinism, the Markov Chain and the Monte Carlo technique. Those are backed with examples of use and a section on how to develop any simulation from scratch.

Both books from Sunshine Publications show what can be achieved when authors think about a machine and its capabilities before sitting down to write.

Quill, Easel, Archive and Abacus on the Sinclair QL — Integrating the Psion Software Price: £6.95
Introduction to Simulation Techniques on the Sinclair QL Price: £6.95. Publisher: Sunshine Publications

more books on page 110

Case of the missing QDOS

ONE OF THE most sparse sources of information about the QL has just been provided by Sigma Press and it is called, more in desperation than hope you might think, *The Sinclair QL User Guide*.

The User Guide is just a rewrite of that other QL User Guide and looks as if the writer has dashed it off on a word processor and not bothered to add anything of his own, such personal opinions

about how best to use the massive power of the new machine, or even a touch of humour. Most other books succeed in adding something new to the Sinclair Guide but Fleetwood's book does not.

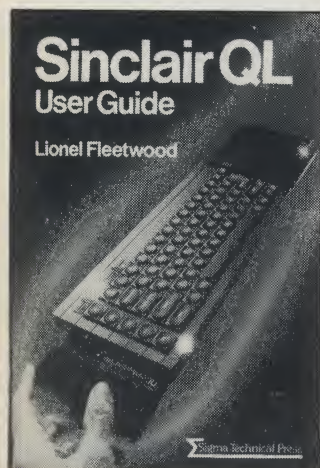
Much of the book discusses the Psion software packages, twenty pages being left for a quick cut and thrust at SuperBasic which barely covers the points made in the beginner's section of the Sinclair Guide. You might think that the rest of the text would contain a wealth of information, culled from the corridors of Psion or Sinclair, about the software packages but you would be sadly wrong. There is one example for each of the packages and each of those covers barely one page.

The author and publisher do not seem to have measured their limitations in getting such a book out onto the market. Copies have been go-

ing out to WH Smith with bits of paper stuck over part of the blurb on the back of the book. For those interested in the offending passage, it reads "Bits and bytes don't come into it until you get to the technical section on the 68010 processor, the Motorola instruction set and the QDOS operating system. Even here, the language is clear and jargon-free, providing a painless introduction for those who want it." Yes, the introduction to QDOS is painless as it does not exist.

It is a pity to witness the birth of a book such as *The Sinclair QL User Guide*. It could have been so much better. Authors can make mistakes but the criticisms of this book are that nothing new, not even in terms of style, is brought to the reader.

The Sinclair QL Users Guide
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IF YOU WANT to know what you should have known before you went out and bought your computer then *Computer Wimp*, by John Bear, is for you.

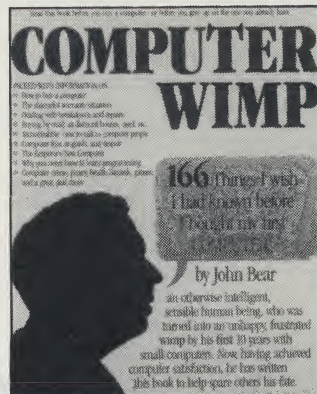
Although it is an American import the book has more than a slight bearing on the British scene with its list of "166 things I wish I had known before I bought my first computer!" Each item is shown in bold type in the margin. The main body of the text, opposite the numbered item, explains the various factors involved in the solution of any problems which might arise from it.

The problems include buying a computer, operating the machine and dealing with any difficulties that may arise from its use. Each of the

points is clear and concise in its terminology but hints of the author's irreverent attitude towards the computer scene peep through on nearly every page.

The text is peppered with Victorian and Edwardian engravings suitably doctored for at least minimal relevance. African porters shoulder printers and camel-borne Tuaregs carry PCs, to illustrate computer mobility. You will either love or hate this, but there is no denying that it is an extremely cheap method of illustrating a book.

As a reference book *Computer Wimp* is useful and amusing. It has some drawbacks, for instance all the prices are in dollars and not in sterling, but these are easily forgotten when you look at



all the practical information which can serve both American and British markets alike. The publishers make no apologies for the American bias, explaining that to change the text would be "to alter the flavour without adding anything to the quality."

Computer Wimp; Price: £6.95; Publisher: Hutchinson

Calling all modem users

IF YOU HAVE ever had the urge to buy a modem and plug into Micronet, or want to know about getting around the network, then *Micronet Book*, by Alan Giles, is for you.

A complete rundown of the modem hardware and what you need to run it is given first, followed by an introduction to the Prestel databases and how to go through them to the Micronet information and tele-software systems.

One of the most useful aspects of the book is how to convert functions of the VTX 5000 modem, which you

need to make your Spectrum compatible with Prestel codes, in order that they work with Interface One and microdrives. That means screen pages of information can be downloaded from the system onto microdrive. Those screens can then be called up quickly without having to wade through reams of paper

or find a particular screen on cassette tape.

Micronet Book, from Melbourne House, is a novel idea which has been well executed. A lot of information has been packed into such a small volume and no Micronet user should be without it.

Micronet Book Price: £6.95. Publisher: Melbourne House

Worthless enquiries

THE SPECTRUM version of *Micro Enquirer* rewritten from old *Computer Answers* articles, contains aspects of computing which have nothing to do with the Sinclair machine and will be of little interest to Spectrum users'.

It is a cheap way of running off titles and the joins show. About ten percent of the information contained within its pages is about the home computer market, the rest being specialist and business sectors.

Any Sinclair owners curious about CAD, CP/M, MODULA-2, MS-DOS, MSX and UNIX may find something of interest, but they should pay no attention to the blurb on the cover which proclaims "This book will answer all your questions about your Spectrum...". There is no mention of microdrives or the Interface 1, only a fleeting reference to joysticks and even the photographs are of hardware for other machines.

The Micro Enquirer: Spectrum Price: £8.95 Publisher: Century Communications

Support you local Spectrum

YOU WILL GET a lot of information if you buy *The Complete Spectrum*, published by Granada and edited by Allan Scott, a conglomeration of articles by authors such as Ian Sinclair, Mike James, and S M Gee.

The seven sections include information about setting up the computer, Basic and machine code, writing games programs and getting the most from peripherals.

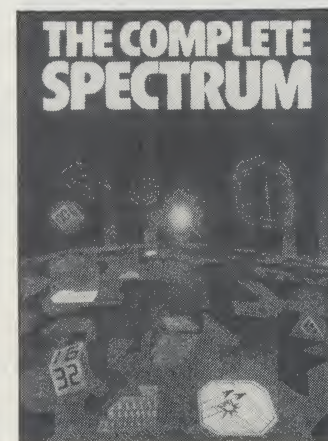
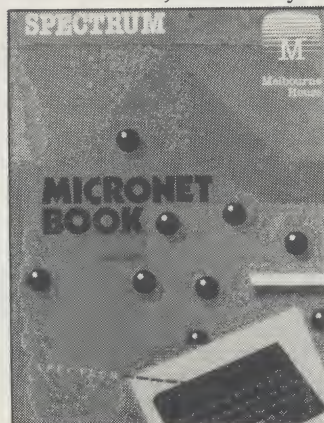
Not satisfied with producing information about all aspects of the machine the publisher and editor have made it easy for the reader to find any information which is

needed from hardware and software suppliers. An appendix listing most Sinclair supporting companies is a boon to any reader who might come across a reference to such companies in a magazine which then omits to mention its address. The software appendix even lists some of the most famous games on the market.

For a paltry £10.00 *The Complete Spectrum* is excellent value for money. One word of warning, though, to people who have bought any other Granada books on computers. Much of what is in the compilation has been

culled from those books so beware. There had to be a catch somewhere.

The Complete Spectrum Price: £9.95 Publisher: Granada



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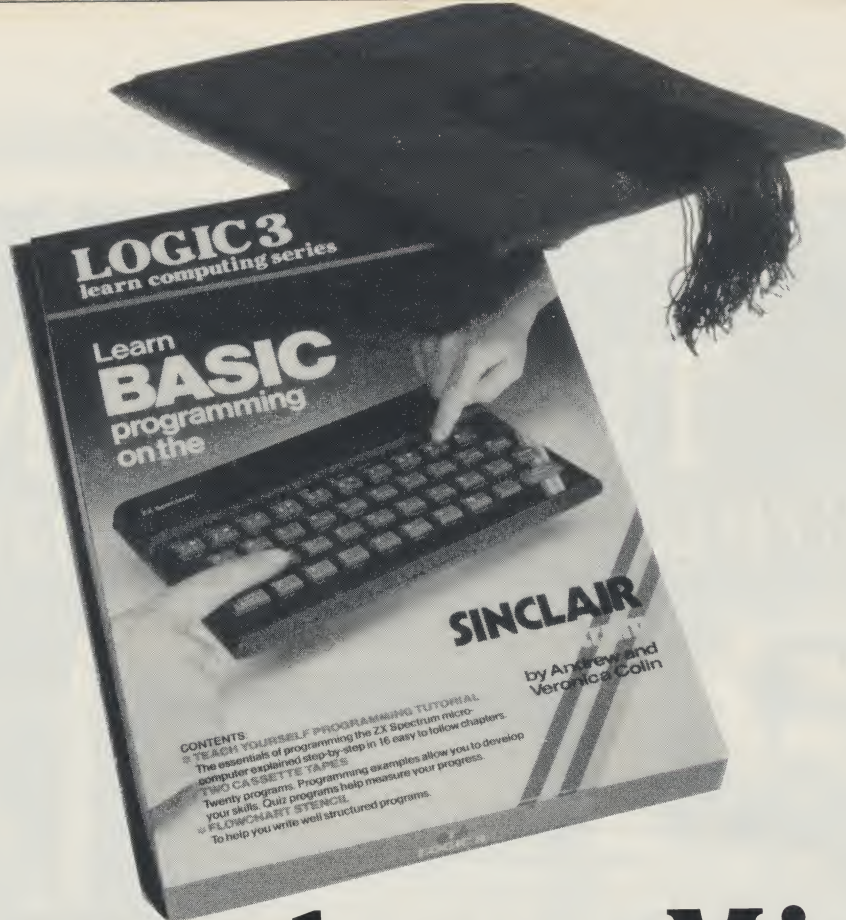
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SU1



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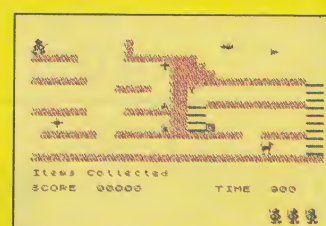
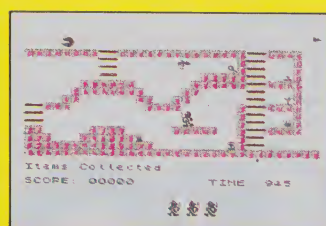
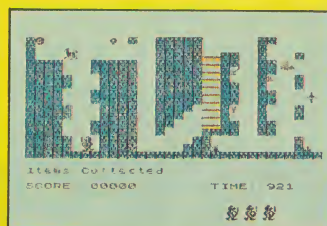
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PROGRAM PRINTOUT

GRAPHICS INSTRUCTIONS

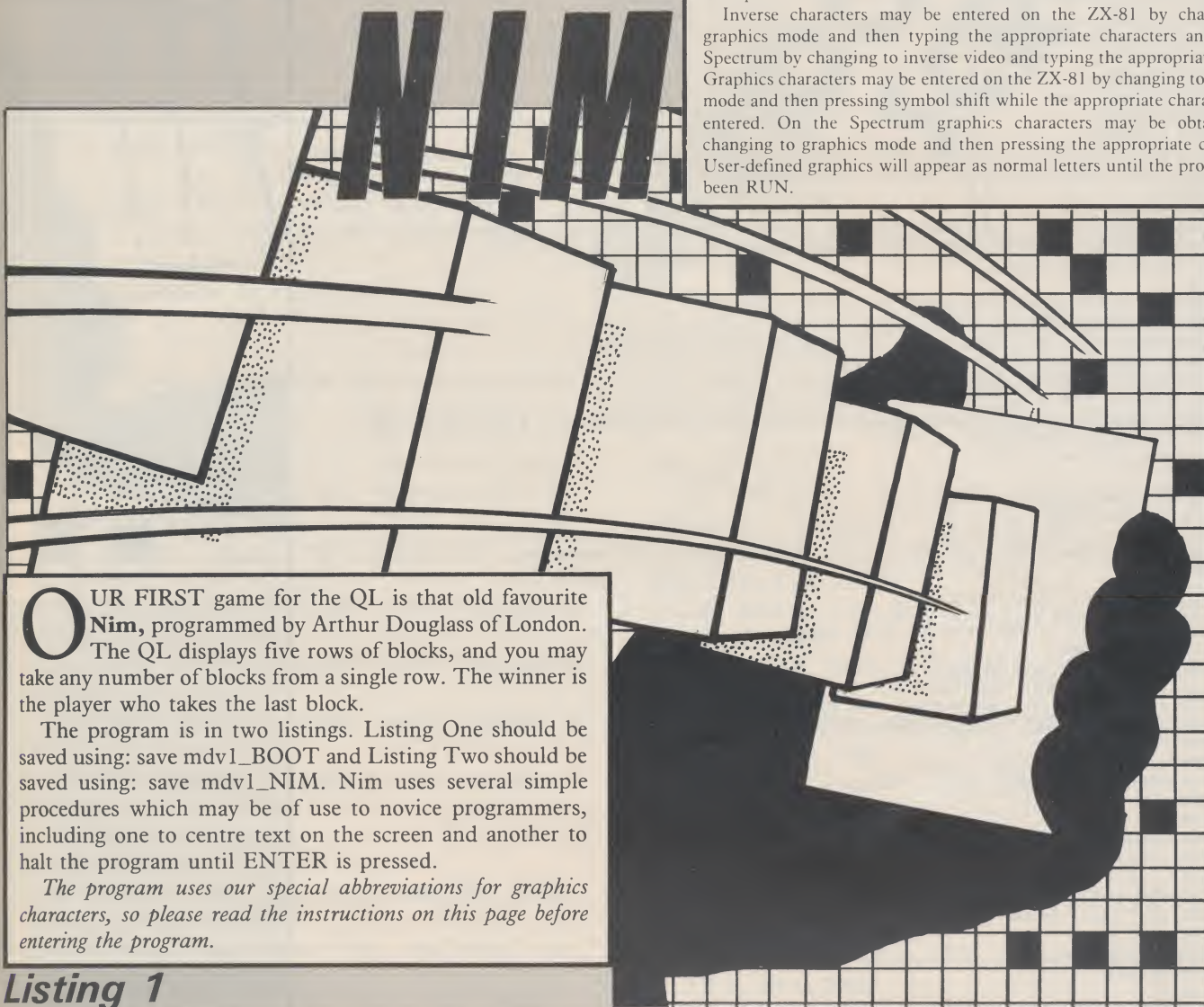
Instructions for graphics characters are printed in lower-case letters in our listings. They are enclosed by brackets and separated by colons to distinguish them and the brackets and colons should not be entered.

Inverse characters are represented by the letter "i" and graphics characters by "g". Thus an inverse W would be represented by "iw", a graphics W by "gw", and an inverse graphics W by "igw".

Spaces are represented by "sp" and inverse spaces by "isp". Whenever any character is to be used more than once, the number of times it is to be used is shown before it, together with a multiplication sign. Thus "6*isp" means six inverse spaces and "(g4:4*i4:g3)" would be entered as a graphic four, followed by an inverse four repeated four times, followed by a graphics three.

Where whole words are to be written in inverse letters they appear in the listings as lower-case letters. Letters to be entered in graphics mode on the Spectrum are underlined.

Inverse characters may be entered on the ZX-81 by changing to graphics mode and then typing the appropriate characters and on the Spectrum by changing to inverse video and typing the appropriate letters. Graphics characters may be entered on the ZX-81 by changing to graphics mode and then pressing symbol shift while the appropriate characters are entered. On the Spectrum graphics characters may be obtained by changing to graphics mode and then pressing the appropriate character. User-defined graphics will appear as normal letters until the program has been RUN.



OUR FIRST game for the QL is that old favourite **Nim**, programmed by Arthur Douglass of London. The QL displays five rows of blocks, and you may take any number of blocks from a single row. The winner is the player who takes the last block.

The program is in two listings. Listing One should be saved using: save mdv1_BOOT and Listing Two should be saved using: save mdv1_NIM. Nim uses several simple procedures which may be of use to novice programmers, including one to centre text on the screen and another to halt the program until ENTER is pressed.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters, so please read the instructions on this page before entering the program.

Listing 1

```

100 MODE 8
110 WINDOW 512,256,0,0
120 PAPER 2:INK 7:BORDER 2,2,7:CLS
220 FOR j=1 TO 7:centre "(sp)"
230 centre "PRESS ENTER"
240 wait
250 CLS
260 PRINT\\
270 centre "RULES OF NIM"
280 PRINT
290 centre "The QL will display five rows of"
300 centre "from one to fifteen blocks."
310 PRINT
320 centre "The player and the QL alternately"
330 centre "take away any amount upto all the"
340 centre "blocks in any row."
350 PRINT
360 centre "The winner is the one to take away"
370 centre "the last block(s)."
380 PRINT\\
390 centre "PRESS ENTER"
400 wait

410 CLS:PRINT\\
420 centre "The QL does not play a perfect game,"
430 centre "it would be boring if it did, but it"
440 centre "plays a reasonable game."
450 PRINT
500 PRINT\\
510 centre "PRESS ENTER TO LOAD NIM"
520 wait
530 CLS
540 LRUN mdv1_NIM
550 DEFine PROCedure centre (a$)
560 LOCAL j,k
570 j=42-LEN(a$)
580 FOR k=1 TO INT(j/2)
590 a$="(sp)" & a$
600 NEXT k
610 PRINT a$
620 RETURN
630 DEFine PROCedure wait
640 key=CODE(INKEY$(-1)):IF key<>10 THEN GO TO 640
650 END DEFine

```

continued on page 116

Listing 2

continued from page 115

```

100 DIM nim(5)
110 MODE 8
120 WINDOW 512,256,0,0
130 PAPER 0:INK 7:CLS
140 WINDOW 448,190,32,16
150 OPEN#3,con_448x12a32x16
160 pscore=0:qlscore=0
170 FOR j=1 TO 5:nim(j)=RND(1 TO 15)
180 display
190 REPEAT loop
200 player
210 display
220 CLS#0:IF NOT nim(1)AND NOT nim(2)AND NOT nim(3)AND NOT nim(4)AND NOT nim(5)T
HEN FLASH 0,1:centre 0,"You win":FLASH#0,0:pscore=pscore+1:replay
230 ql
240 display
250 CLS#0:IF NOT nim(1)AND NOT nim(2)AND NOT nim(3)AND NOT nim(4)AND NOT nim(5)T
HEN FLASH#0,1:centre 0,"I win":FLASH#0,0:qlscore=qlscore+1:replay
260 END REPEAT loop
270 :
280 DEFINE PROCEDURE player
290 CLS#0:centre 0," From which row ?"
300 AT#0,1,18:INPUT#0;row:IF NOT nim(row)THEN GO TO 300
310 CLS#0:centre 0,"Take how many ?"
320 AT#0,1,18:INPUT#0,take:IF take>nim(row)OR take<1 OR take>INT(take) THEN GO
TO 320
330 CLS#0:a$="You take " & take & " from row " & row:centre 0,a$:PAUSE 150
340 LET nim(row)=nim(row)-take
350 END DEFINE player
360 :
370 DEFINE PROCEDURE ql
380 sum=0:CLS#0
390 FOR j=1 TO 5:sum=sum ^^ nim(j)
400 IF NOT sum THEN FOR j=1 TO 5:IF nim(j)THEN row=j:take=RND(1 TO nim(row)):GO
TO 470
410 FOR k=1 TO 8
420 FOR j=1 TO 5
430 IF nim(j)>=k AND sum>=k THEN row=j
440 NEXT j:NEXT k
450 take=nim(row) ^^ sum
460 take=ABS(nim(row)-take)
470 a$="I take " & take:centre 0,a$
480 a$="From row " & row:centre 0,a$
490 PAUSE 150
500 nim(row)=nim(row)-take
510 PAUSE 150
520 END DEFINE ql
530 :
540 DEFINE PROCEDURE centre (chan,a$)
550 LOCAL j,k
560 j=37-LEN(a$)
570 FOR k=1 TO INT(j/2)
580 a$="(sp)" & a$
590 NEXT k
600 PRINT#chan,a$
610 RETURN
620 :
630 DEFINE PROCEDURE display
640 CLS:BORDER 3,1,4
650 PRINT#3!"You"!pscore:AT 3,0,15:PRINT#3;"Me"!qlscore:AT#3,0,27:PRINT#3;"Playe
d"!pscore+qlscore
660 AT 3,0:
670 FOR j=1 TO 5
680 INK 6:PRINT j;"(2*sp)";:INK 7
690 IF nim(j)
700 FOR k=1 TO nim(j)
710 BLOCK 15,10,k*25,j*20+10,5
720 NEXT k
730 END IF
740 INK 3:CURSOR nim(j)*25+16,j*20+10:PRINT["";nim(j);"]"\:NEXT j
750 END DEFINE display
760 :
770 DEFINE PROCEDURE replay
780 display
790 centre 0," Another Game ?"
800 key$=INKEY$(-1)
810 IF key$=="y"THEN GO TO 170
820 CLS#0:centre 0,"O.K."
830 STOP
840 END DEFINE replay

```


IMPROVE your arcade games with a machine code routine which enables you to scroll part of the screen in four different directions. **Window Scrolls** by Pete Cooke of Leicester allows you to emulate professional programmers and simulate windows on the Spectrum.

The routine occupies 217 bytes in all and is stored in locations starting at 30000, so it will fit into a 16K Spectrum. If you have a 48K machine you should change the addresses to a higher value if you intend to write a long program.

To use the routine as it is written, you should first define the size of the window by changing the numbers POKED in lines 120 to 150. At present the routine sets up a window 25 pixels by 50.

To control the scrolling, use the cursor keys. A game written using the program would thus be controlled by the cursor keys.

```

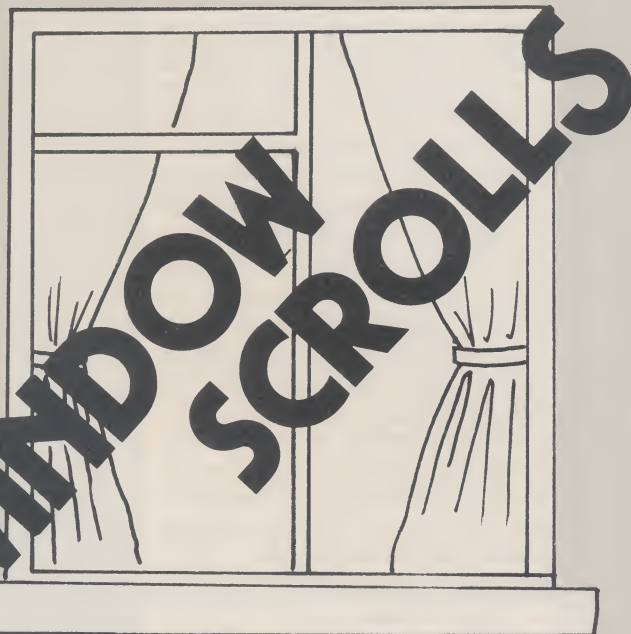
1 REM Window scrolls
  in 4 directions
2 REM Pete cooke May 84
10 CLEAR 30999: GO SUB 9500: R
EM poke in the data
100 BORDER 1: PAPER 1: INK 7: C
LS : PRINT TAB 8;"Window scrolli
ng";TAB 8;"Demonstration"
110 PRINT AT 4,8;"Use Keys 5-8"
120 POKE 31214,5: REM start x
130 POKE 31215,5: REM start y
140 POKE 31216,25: REM finishx
150 POKE 31217,50: REM finishy
200 PRINT AT 10,0;: FOR n=1 TO
76: PRINT "demo.";: NEXT n
210 LET z$=INKEY$
220 IF z$="6" THEN LET v=USR 3
1003
230 IF z$="7" THEN LET v=USR 3
1000
240 IF z$="5" THEN LET v=USR 3
1006
250 IF z$="8" THEN LET v=USR 3
1009
300 GO TO 210
8999 STOP
9000 DATA 195,36,121,195,82,121,
195,127,121,195
9010 DATA 165,121,221,33,238,121
,221,126,1,221
9020 DATA 70,3,128,197,245,205,2
00,121,125,221
9030 DATA 134,0,111,235,241,245,
61,205,200,121
9040 DATA 125,221,134,0,111,221,
78,2,6,0
9050 DATA 237,176,241,61,193,16,
222,201,221,33
9060 DATA 238,121,221,126,1,221,
70,3,197,245
9070 DATA 205,200,121,125,221,13
4,0,111,235,241
9080 DATA 245,60,205,200,121,125
,221,134,0,111
9090 DATA 221,78,2,6,0,237,176,2

```

```

41,60,193
9100 DATA 16,222,201,221,33,238,
121,221,126,1
9110 DATA 221,70,3,197,245,205,2
00,121,125,221
9120 DATA 134,0,221,134,2,111,22
1,70,2,183
9130 DATA 203,22,43,16,251,241,6
0,193,16,229
9140 DATA 201,221,33,238,121,221
,126,1,221,70
9150 DATA 3,197,245,205,200,121,
125,221,134,0
9160 DATA 111,221,70,2,183,203,3
0,35,16,251
9170 DATA 241,60,193,16,232,201,
213,33,0,0
9180 DATA 87,62,175,146,245,230,
7,103,241,245
9190 DATA 230,56,203,39,203,39,1
11,241,230,192
9200 DATA 203,63,203,63,203,63,1
32,103,17,0
9210 DATA 64,25,209,201,0,0,32,1
75
9500 CLS : PRINT AT 5,5;"Poking
in m/code";AT 7,5;"Please wait"
9510 LET total=0: RESTORE 9000:
FOR n=31000 TO 31217: READ a: LE
T total=total+a: POKE n,a
9520 NEXT n: IF total<>29511 THE
N PRINT "Error in data."'"Do no
t run.": STOP
9530 RETURN

```



THE SPAWN of Satan, Damien Thorn, must be destroyed before he becomes powerful enough to take over the world. O Seaman of Chepstow in Gwent has written a text adventure program to allow you to do just that. A neat core program at lines 10-900 allows for large quantities of text. You will find it difficult to defeat Damien before falling prey to his demented followers, who are lurking everywhere to deceive and destroy you. Damien was written for the 48K Spectrum.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters, so please read the special instructions on the first page of Program Printout before typing in the program.

```

1 GO TO 9000
2 LET n=0: LET s=0: LET e=0:
LET w=0: LET u=0: LET d=0: RETUR
N
10 PRINT "Directions are:(";("
North," AND n<>0);("South," AND
s<>0);("East," AND e<>0);("West,
" AND w<>0);("Up," AND u<>0);("D
own," AND d<>0);CHR$(8);"(sp)"
11 PRINT "I can see:"
12 LET fo=0: FOR q=1 TO 14: IF
o(q)=line THEN PRINT "A(sp)";o
$(q): LET fo=1
13 NEXT q: IF fo=0 THEN PRINT
"Nothing"
14 RETURN
20 INPUT "What shall I do?(sp)
"; LINE q$
21 IF q$="N" AND n<>0 THEN LE
T line=n: GO TO line
22 IF q$="S" AND s<>0 THEN LE
T line=s: GO TO line
23 IF q$="E" AND e<>0 THEN LE
T line=e: GO TO line
24 IF q$="W" AND w<>0 THEN LE
T line=w: GO TO line
25 IF q$="R" THEN GO TO line
26 IF q$="I" THEN GO TO 900
27 IF q$="U" AND u<>0 THEN LE
T line=u: GO TO line
28 IF q$="D" AND d<>0 THEN LE
T line=d: GO TO line
29 IF q$="U" OR Q$="D" OR Q$="
N" OR Q$="S" OR Q$="W" OR Q$="E"
THEN PRINT "I can't go that wa
y": GO TO 20
30 IF Q$="STOP" OR Q$="QUIT"
THEN GO TO 9990
31 IF Q$="SAVE" THEN GO TO 80
00
32 IF Q$="LOAD" THEN GO TO 85
00
33 LET a$="": LET b$="": FOR q
=1 TO LEN q$
34 IF q$(q)="(sp)" THEN LET a
$=q$( TO q-1): LET b$=q$(q+1 TO
): GO TO 40
35 NEXT q: PRINT "Huh?": GO TO
20
40 IF a$="PICK" OR a$="TAKE" T
HEN GO TO 100
45 IF a$<>"DROP" AND a$<>"PUT"
THEN RETURN
50 FOR q=1 TO 14: IF b$=o$(q,
TO LEN b$) THEN GO TO 60
55 NEXT q: PRINT a$;"(sp)what?
": GO TO 20
60 LET o(q)=line: PRINT "O.K.(
sp)": GO TO 20
100 FOR q=1 TO 14: IF b$=o$(q,
TO LEN b$) THEN GO TO 120
110 NEXT q: PRINT a$;"(sp)what?

```



```

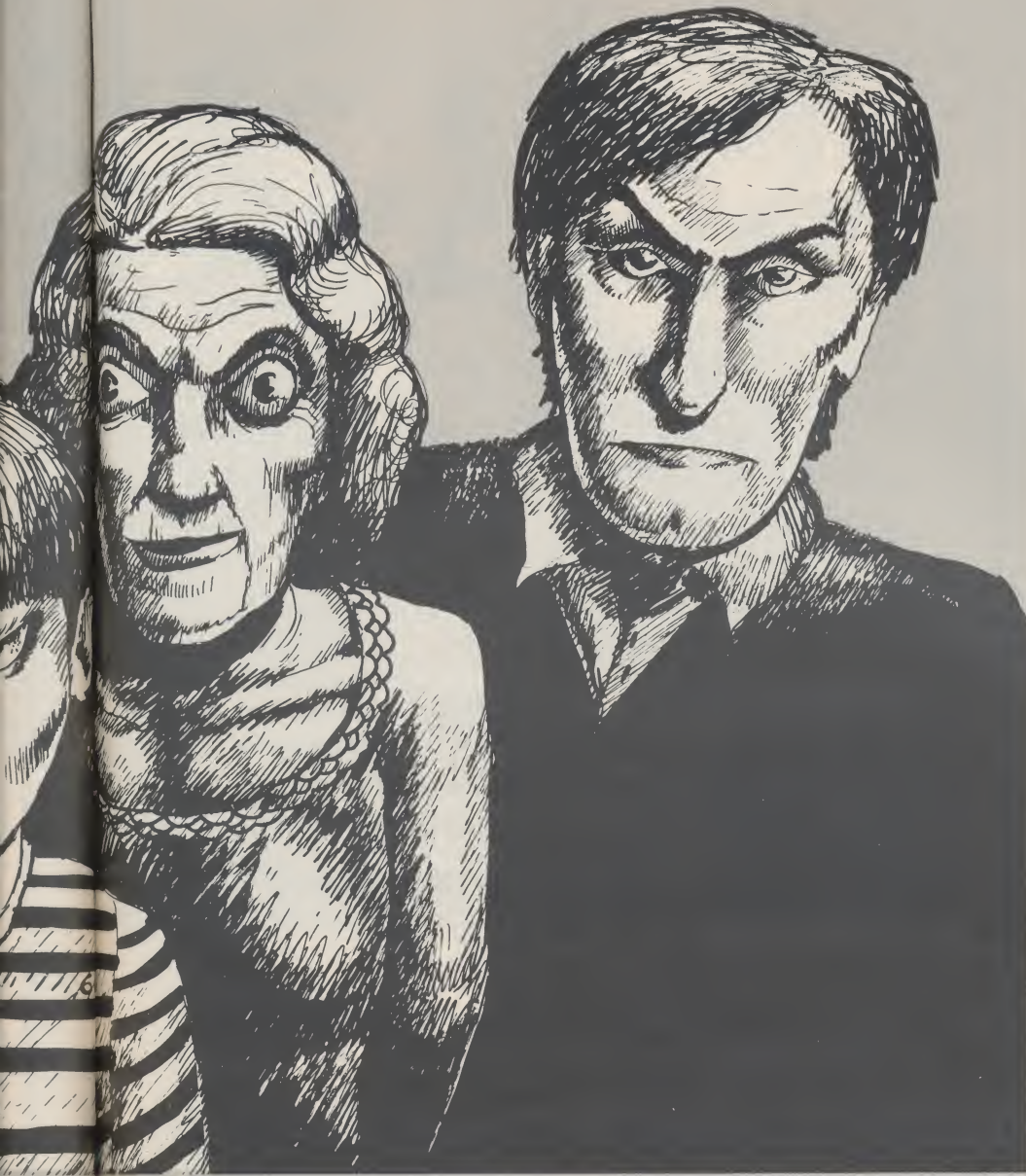
": GO TO 20
120 IF o(q)<>line THEN PRINT "
I can't see it here(sp)": GO TO
20
130 LET o(q)=0: PRINT "O.K.": G
O TO 20
900 PRINT "'I have with me :'"
910 LET fo=0: FOR q=1 TO 14: IF
o(q)=0 THEN PRINT "A(sp)";o$(q
): LET fo=1
920 NEXT q: IF fo=0 THEN PRINT
"Nothing"
925 IF o(6)=0 THEN PRINT "And(
sp)";o(15);"(sp)bullet";("s" AND
o(15)>1)
930 GO TO 20
1000 GO SUB 2: LET n=1700: LET w
=1100: LET e=1200
1010 CLS : PRINT "I am outside a
large mansion.(3*sp)West is a c
hurch,East is the(4*sp)mansion d
oor"
1020 GO SUB 10
1030 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1030
1100 GO SUB 2: LET e=1000
1110 CLS : PRINT "There is a pri
est here.He says:" Welcome.I
know why you are hereand I know
you are our only hopefor salvati
on.The beast is once more among
the world of men.I(3*sp)know he
is near.There are many(sp)"
1120 PRINT "of his disciples amo
ng us.You(3*sp)must kill him whi
le he is still a baby and is pow

```

```

erless.However only the holy kni
ves can kill "
1130 PRINT "him.Yet the powers o
f God have(sp)prepared well and
somewhere nearby is the knives.M
ay you have(3*sp)God's Holy bles
sing on your(5*sp)Quest."
1135 IF O(1)<>37 THEN GO TO 115
0
1140 POKE 23692,0: PRINT "He re
aches into the church(6*sp)resto
ration fund and gives me £5which
I take."
1141 LET o(1)=0
1145 PRINT );("Press a key": PAU
SE 1: PAUSE 0
1150 GO SUB 10
1160 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1160
1200 IF o(13)<>0 THEN CLS : PRI
NT "The door is locked-You canno
t(3*sp)enter.": INPUT "Press ENT
ER"; LINE q$: LET line=1000: GO
TO 1000
1201 CLS : PRINT "I am in the ma
nsion.There is a(2*sp)wild dog t
hat is about to eat(3*sp)me."
1210 INPUT "What shall I use aga
inst it?(sp)"; LINE q$
1220 IF q$<>"LAMB" THEN CLS : P
RINT "He has ignored me and eate
n me!": GO TO 9900
1230 PRINT "The dog is eating th
e meat-if I hurry I can get East
unharmd"
1240 INPUT "Press ENTER to go Ea
st"; LINE q$: LET line=1300: GO

```

```

TO 1300
1300 CLS : PRINT "Damien's nurse
has seen me, and (sp) guessed what
I am about to do. (2*sp) She is c
oming at me with a (6*sp) poker!"
1310 INPUT "What shall I use aga
inst her? (sp) " LINE q$
1320 IF q$ <> "GUN" THEN CLS : PR
INT "She has killed me!!": GO TO
9900
1330 PRINT "I shot and killed h
er-I may now proceed East"
1340 INPUT "Press ENTER to go Ea
st"; LINE q$: LET line=1400: GO
TO 1400
1400 CLS : PRINT "I can see Dami
en in his cot. He (2*sp) has see me
. He has stood up- he is bigger tha
n I thought- to (8*sp) strangle me"
1410 INPUT "What shall I use aga
inst him? (sp) " LINE q$
1420 IF q$ <> "KNIVES" THEN CLS :
PRINT "He has killed me!!": GO
TO 9900
1430 CLS : PRINT "Success!! YOU H
AVE KILLED DAMIEN" "You have des
troyed the anti- (4*sp) christ and
so are the saviour of the world
!!"
1440 GO TO 9990
1500 GO SUB 2: LET E=1600
1510 CLS : PRINT "I can see a gr
ave"
1520 GO SUB 10
1530 GO SUB 20
1540 IF a$ <> "DIG" THEN GO TO 15

```

```

30
1545 IF o(7) <> 0 THEN PRINT "Wha
t with?": GO TO 1530
1550 CLS : PRINT "I dug up the g
rave and out of it flew 13 black
ravens, who have (3*sp) killed me!"
: GO TO 9900
1600 GO SUB 2: LET n=1800: LET w
=1500: LET e=1700
1610 CLS : PRINT "I can see a gr
ave. Also, on it is enscribed 'Her
e lies Mrs Thorn'"
1620 GO SUB 10
1630 GO SUB 20
1640 IF a$ <> "DIG" THEN GO TO 16
30
1645 IF o(7) <> 0 THEN PRINT "Wha
t with?": GO TO 1630
1650 PRINT "I dug up the grave
and found the skeleton of a jacka
l!": GO TO 1630
1700 GO SUB 2: LET w=1600: LET n
=1900: LET s=1000
1710 CLS : PRINT "I am at the ed
ge of a graveyard to my West."
1720 GO SUB 10
1730 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1730
1800 GO SUB 2: LET s=1600
1810 CLS : PRINT "I can see a gr
ave"
1820 GO SUB 10
1830 GO SUB 20
1840 IF a$ <> "DIG" THEN GO TO 18
30
1845 IF o(7) <> 0 THEN PRINT "Wha
t with?": GO TO 1830

```

```

1850 LET o(10)=0: PRINT "I dug
up the grave to find a (4*sp) skel
eton. I noticed a cross that it w
as holding. I picked it up": GO T
O 1830
1900 GO SUB 2: LET n=2000: LET s
=1700
1910 CLS : PRINT "I am on a Nort
h/South road (6*sp) leading to a s
eedy town"
1920 GO SUB 10
1930 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1930
2000 GO SUB 2: LET n=2100: LET s
=1900
2010 CLS : PRINT "I can see an o
ld beggar pleading for some money
. I am still on the road"
2020 GO SUB 10
2030 GO SUB 20: IF a$ <> "GIVE" TH
EN GO TO 2030
2035 IF o(1) <> 0 THEN PRINT "I d
on't have the money!!": GO TO 20
30
2040 PRINT "The beggar said 'Th
ank you' and ran off!!": LET o(1
)=1: GO TO 2030
2100 GO SUB 2: LET n=2400: LET s
=2000
2110 CLS : PRINT "I am on a Nort
h/South road"
2120 GO TO 1020
2200 GO SUB 2: LET n=2299: LET s
=2299: LET e=2300
2210 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d of the path. (4*sp) North and So
uth are swamp, but (3*sp) North I c
an see a glistening"
2220 GO TO 1020
2299 CLS : PRINT "I sank in the
swamp!!": GO TO 9900
2300 GO SUB 2: LET e=2400: LET w
=2200
2310 CLS : PRINT "I am on a path
"
2320 GO TO 1020
2400 GO SUB 2: LET n=3200: LET s
=2100: LET e=2500: LET w=2300
2410 CLS : PRINT "I am on a cros
sroads"
2420 GO TO 1020
2500 GO SUB 2: LET e=2600: LET w
=2400: GO TO 2310
2600 GO SUB 2: LET e=3000: LET w
=2500: LET s=2700
2610 CLS : PRINT "I am on a path
. South is a beggar": GO TO 1020
2700 GO SUB 2: LET n=2600
2710 CLS : PRINT "There is a Beg
gar here. He says (2*sp) he will se
ll you a Red Crystal (2*sp) for on
ly £5"
2720 GO SUB 10
2730 GO SUB 20: IF a$ <> "GIVE" TH
EN GO TO 2730
2735 IF o(1) <> 0 THEN PRINT "I d
on't have any money": GO TO 2730
2740 PRINT "He has given me the
crystal and takes £5"
2750 LET o(1)=1: LET o(8)=0: GO
TO 2730
2900 GO SUB 2: LET s=3000
2910 CLS : PRINT "There is an ol
d grave-digger (4*sp) here whb say
s he'll give me his spade in ret
urn for £5 or some (2*sp) silver"
2920 GO SUB 10
2930 GO SUB 20: IF a$ <> "GIVE" TH
EN GO TO 2930
2935 IF b$ <> "£5" AND b$ <> "SILVER
" THEN PRINT "Give him what?":
GO TO 2930
2940 IF b$ = "£5" AND o(1) <> 0 TH
EN PRINT "I don't have £5": GO TO
2930
2950 IF b$ = "SILVER" AND o(5) <> 0
THEN PRINT "I don't have any si
lver": GO TO 2930
2960 PRINT "He says 'O.K.' and g
ives you his spade"
2970 LET o(7)=0: LET o(1+(4 AND
b$ = "SILVER"))=1: GO TO 2930

```

continued on page 120

continued from page 119

```

3000 GO SUB 2: LET n=2900: LET s
=3100: LET w=2600
3010 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d of the path.(4*sp)North is an
old man,South is a(2*sp)tall fig
ure."
3020 GO TO 1020
3100 GO SUB 2: LET n=3000
3110 CLS : PRINT "There is a tal
l figure here who has given me a
Black Crystal!!!"
3120 LET o(9)=0: GO TO 1020
3200 GO SUB 2: LET n=3300: LET s
=2400: GO TO 2110
3300 GO SUB 2: LET n=3400: LET s
=3200
3310 CLS : PRINT "To my North is
the start of a(3*sp)city.": GO
TO 1020
3400 GO SUB 2: LET N=3500: LET S
=3300
3405 IF O(16)=123 THEN CLS : PR
INT "I am on a N/S road,there is
a(3*sp)dead man on the road": G
O TO 1020
3410 CLS : PRINT "There is a man
here with an axe.He looks dange
rous!."
3420 INPUT "Shall I attempt hand
-to-axe(5*sp)combat,or retreat S
outh? (F/R)": LINE q$
3430 IF q$="R" THEN LET line=s:
GO TO line
3440 LET o(16)=123: PRINT "'He
swiped at me with his axe.I duc
ked,and kicked him in the(4*sp)s
hin.He reeled,fell,and died.(3*s
p)There is now an axe on the(6*s
p)ground."
3450 LET O(2)=LINE: GO TO 1020
3500 GO SUB 2: LET n=3800: LET s
=3400: LET w=3600: LET e=3700
3510 CLS : PRINT "I am on a main
N/S road.West is a flimsy woode
n door,East is a strong door wi
th a red knocker."
3520 GO TO 1020
3600 CLS : PRINT "I managed to b
reak through the(2*sp)door,to fi
nd a man,who said 'Howdare you b
reak my door down!'.Hethen shot
me!!!"
3610 GO TO 9900
3700 GO SUB 2: LET w=3500
3710 CLS : PRINT "There is a tal
l robed figure(4*sp)here who tel
ls me I can only go East if I gi
ve him a Red Crystal"
3720 GO SUB 10
3730 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN GO TO 3730
3740 IF o(8)<>0 THEN PRINT "I d
on't have a Red Crystal": GO TO
3730
3750 PRINT "'He said 'Thankyou'
and cackled alittle.I went East
to find 13(3*sp)Devil Worshippe
rs,who killed me!": GO TO 9900
3800 GO SUB 2: LET w=3899: LET e
=3900: LET n=4500: LET s=3500
3810 CLS : PRINT "To my East is
an alleyway,and(3*sp)West is a f
limsy wooden door"
3820 GO TO 1020
3899 PRINT "I broke down the doo
r to find a ring of chain smoker
s,who(7*sp)offered me a puff.I a
ccepted andwished I hadn't": GO
TO 9900
3900 GO SUB 2: LET N=4600: LET E
=4000: LET W=3800
3910 CLS : PRINT "I am in a seed
y alley.North is(2*sp)a flimsy w
ooden door."
3920 GO TO 1020
4000 GO SUB 2: LET N=4100: LET e
=4200: LET w=3900
4010 CLS : PRINT "Here is a Begg
ar who asks me for a black crysta
l or £5 in return for a Red key.
"

```



```

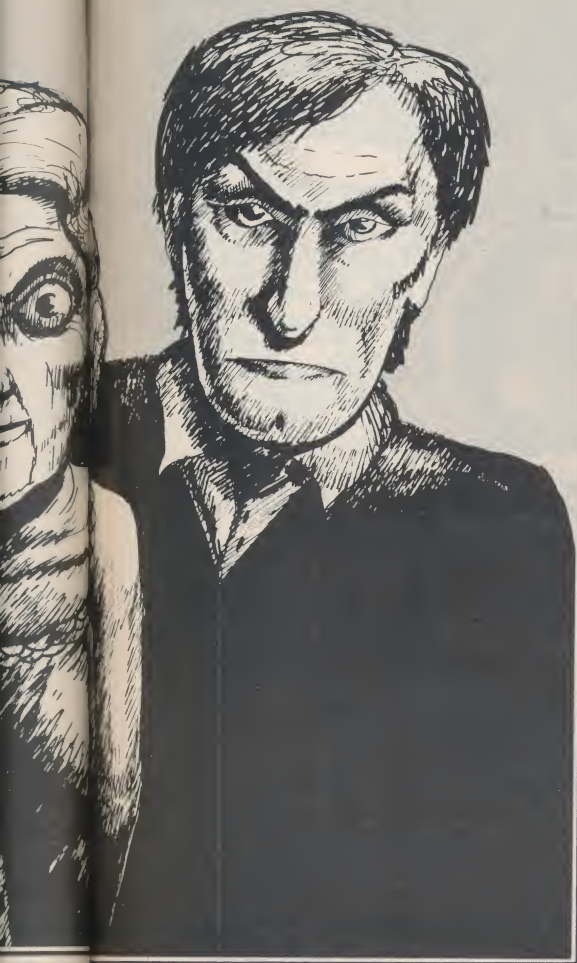
4020 GO SUB 10
4030 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN GO TO 20
4040 IF b$<>"£5" AND b$<>"BLACK
CRYSTAL" THEN PRINT "Give what?
": GO TO 4030
4050 IF o(1)+(8 AND b$="BLACK CRY
STAL")<>0 THEN PRINT "I don't
have it": GO TO 4030
4060 PRINT "He gives you the Red
Key": LET o(1)+(8 AND b$="BLACK
CRYSTAL")=1: LET o(4)=0: GO TO
4030
4100 GO SUB 2: LET s=4000
4110 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d of an alleyway"
4115 IF o(5)=4100 THEN PRINT "I
can see,lying in a bin,a largep
iece of silver!!"
4120 GO TO 1020
4200 GO SUB 2: LET e=4300: LET w
=4000
4210 CLS : PRINT "I am still in
this alley.To the East is a shor
t robed figure.": GO TO 1020
4300 GO SUB 2: LET w=4200
4310 CLS : PRINT "There is a sho
rt figure with a(2*sp)gun about
to shoot me!"
4320 INPUT "Which object shall I
use againsthim? ": LINE q$: IF
q$<>"AXE" THEN PRINT "'No use
- He has shot me!": GO TO 9900
4330 PRINT "'(sp)He fired a sho
t at me,but I(4*sp)deflected it
with my axe.He(5*sp)pulled the t
rigger again but I threw the ax
e at him,which(6*sp)cleaved his
skull.He has left(3*sp)his gun a
nd its four remaining bullets on
the ground."
4340 GO TO 1020
4400 GO SUB 2: LET E=4500
4410 CLS : PRINT "I am in a Butc
hers.They have a(2*sp)special of
fer on - a leg of lambfor only £
5!!"
4420 GO SUB 10

```

```

4430 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" AN
D a$<>"BUY" THEN GO TO 4430
4440 IF o(1)<>0 THEN PRINT "I h
ave no money": GO TO 4430
4450 PRINT "You have the lamb(sp
)": LET o(1)=1: LET o(11)=0: GO
TO 4430
4500 GO SUB 2: LET n=4800: LET s
=3800: LET w=4400: LET d=5700
4510 CLS : PRINT "I am in the st
reet.West is a(4*sp)Butchers wit
h a special offer on.There is an
open manhole below. It looks a
bit dark!"
4520 GO TO 1020
4600 GO SUB 2: LET s=3900
4610 CLS : PRINT "I am in a shed
.On the wall is(3*sp)painted '66
6'.Lying on the(6*sp)ground is a
yellow key": GO TO 1020
4700 GO SUB 2: LET e=4800
4710 CLS : PRINT "I am in a gard
ening shop.There(2*sp)is a naggi
ng old woman here.She says eithe
r buy something or(4*sp)leave.Th
ey seem to be a bit low on stock
at the moment-they onlyhave a s
pade,selling for £5"
4720 INPUT "Do you want to buy i
t (Y/N)": LINE q$
4725 IF q$="" THEN GO TO 4720
4730 IF q$(1)<>"Y" THEN GO TO 1
020
4735 IF o(1)<>0 THEN PRINT "'I
don't have £5": GO TO 1020
4740 LET o(1)=1: LET o(7)=0: GO
TO 1020
4800 GO SUB 2: LET n=5100: LET s
=4500: LET w=4700: LET e=4900
4810 CLS : PRINT "I am still in
this seedy town.(2*sp)West is a
gardening shop,East isa door wit
h a black knocker on. It says 'P
lease Knock'.": GO TO 1020
4900 GO SUB 2: LET w=4800
4910 CLS : PRINT "I am in a larg
e dusty house.(4*sp)There is a c
loaked figure who(3*sp)says I ca
n go East through a biglocked do

```

or only on receipt of a Black Crystal."

```
4920 GO SUB 10
4930 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" THEN GO TO 4930
4940 IF o(9)<>0 THEN PRINT "I don't have a black crystal": GO TO 4930
```

4950 PRINT "He says 'Ta' and reveals a bunch of keys with which he unlocks(3*sp)the door. It creaks open. I can(3*sp)now go East.":

GO TO 4930

```
5000 CLS : PRINT "I walked through the door to(4*sp)find a meeting of software(6*sp)writers. They grabbed and bound me. One of them said 'I could write a game around this.' He showed me a gun he designed for one of his games. It really worked—he tried it out on me.": GO TO 9900
```

```
5100 GO SUB 2: LET w=5150: LET e=5200: LET n=5500: LET s=4800
```

5110 CLS : PRINT "To my East is a red door, West is a yellow door."

5120 GO TO 1020

```
5150 IF o(3)<>0 THEN PRINT "I do not have the key to unlock the door(sp)": GO TO 1030
```

```
5160 CLS : PRINT "I have found a bunch of men(5*sp)sacrificing a pig. I felt sorry(2*sp)for it and so hit and knocked(3*sp)out the men. The pig was so happy that it jumped up on me and(5*sp)suffocated me!": GO TO 9900
```

```
5200 IF o(4)<>0 THEN PRINT "I do not have the key to unlock the door(sp)": GO TO 1020
```

```
5205 GO SUB 2: LET n=5400: LET e=5300: LET w=5100
```

```
5210 CLS : PRINT "I am in a dark hallway. North and East are rooms in which(9*sp)ceremonies seem to be taking(4*sp)place."
```

5220 GO TO 1020

5300 GO SUB 2

```
5310 CLS : PRINT "There are three devil worshippers here. They seem to want to(7*sp)sacrifice me. The high priest has a small Black key."
```

```
5320 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"SHOOT" THEN PRINT "They have burned me!": GO TO 9900
```

```
5321 IF o(15)<3 THEN PRINT "I don't have enough bullets for all of them. They seem to have(3*sp)boiled me!": GO TO 9900
```

```
5325 IF o(6)<>0 THEN PRINT "I don't have a gun. They seem to have boiled me!": GO TO 9900
```

```
5330 PRINT "I fired 3 shots at them, killing them all. There is now a Black(3*sp)key lying on the ground"
```

```
5340 LET w=5200: LET o(15)=o(15)-3: LET o(12)=line: GO TO 1020
```

```
5400 CLS : PRINT "I entered the room. There was a(2*sp)strange man who promptly locked the door behind me. He offered me a drink (a t gunpoint). I drank it and, all of a sudden, I seemed to grow smaller! When I was about 10 inches high, I heard him say 'It works'. I shrank another foot, and there was nothing left of me!": GO TO 9900
```

```
5500 GO SUB 2: LET w=5600: LET s=5100
```

```
5510 CLS : PRINT "I am at the end (at last) of the long road I have been walking(3*sp)down. To my West I can see an old man": GO TO 1020
```

```
5600 GO SUB 2: LET e=5500
```

```
5610 CLS : PRINT "I can see an old man. He says to me 'That is a nice axe you have there. You wouldn't want to swap it for an old white key, would(3*sp)you?'"
```

5620 GO SUB 10

```
5630 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" THEN GO TO 5630
```

```
5640 IF o(2)<>0 THEN PRINT "I don't have an axe.": GO TO 5630
```

```
5650 PRINT "I told him I would do the swap. He agreed, took my axe, gave me(3*sp)the white key, and promptly blew up!": LET o(2)=1: LET o(13)=0: GO TO 5630
```

```
5700 GO SUB 2: LET u=4500: LET n=5800
```

```
5710 CLS : PRINT "I am in a smelly sewer, at the(3*sp)bottom of a ladder.": GO TO 1020
```

```
5800 GO SUB 2: LET n=5900: LET s=5700
```

```
5810 CLS : PRINT "I am in an underground, dark, damp, smelly, dripping, rat infested(3*sp)tunnel. (It isn't nice).": GO TO 1020
```

```
5900 GO SUB 2: LET s=5800
```

```
5910 CLS : PRINT "I am at the end of the tunnel. I have found a white door with a(2*sp)metal cross on the door. It is(3*sp)locked."
```

5920 GO SUB 10

```
5930 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"UNLOCK" THEN GO TO 5930
```

```
5940 IF o(13)<>0 THEN PRINT "I don't have the key to unlock(2*sp)it with": GO TO 5930
```

```
5950 PRINT "I have unlocked the door. I can(2*sp)now go East.": LET e=6000: GO TO 5920
```

6000 GO SUB 2

```
6010 CLS : PRINT "Here is a tower figure. He(4*sp)looks gruesome. Help!:"
```

```
6020 GO SUB 20: IF b$<>"CROSS" THEN PRINT "He covered me in his cloak and— I disappeared!!": GO TO 9900
```

```
6030 IF o(10)<>0 THEN PRINT "I don't have a cross(worst luck). He covered me in his cloak and— I
```

disappeared!!": GO TO 9900

```
6040 PRINT "He cowers back and lets me past.": LET w=5900: LET n=6100: GO TO 1020
```

```
6100 GO SUB 2: LET n=6200: LET s=6000
```

```
6110 CLS : PRINT "I am in a corridor between 2(4*sp)doors.": GO TO 1020
```

```
6200 GO SUB 2: LET s=6100
```

```
6210 CLS : PRINT "There is a man here, who gives me some pretty knives. He says they are the only things that will(3*sp)kill Damien, and then only if not at all soiled by killing(8*sp)anything else.": GO TO 1020
```

```
8000 CLS : PRINT "SAVE - Prepare tape"
```

```
8010 LET o(16)=line
```

```
8020 SAVE "D-CODE"+STR$ line DATA o()
```

```
8030 CLS : PRINT "VERIFY - Press Y(es) or N(o) "
```

```
8040 IF INKEY$="N" THEN GO TO line
```

```
8050 IF INKEY$<>"Y" THEN GO TO 8040
```

```
8060 PRINT ""If you get an""R Tape Loading Error""Then type 'GOTO G'""(Press 'G' twice, & ENTER)""Press any key when ready."
```

```
8070 IF INKEY$="" THEN GO TO 8070
```

```
8080 LET g=8090: VERIFY "D-CODE"+STR$ line DATA o(): GO TO line
```

```
8090 CLS : PRINT "Options: ""1 Reverify""2 Resave""3 Quit""Press option"
```

```
8100 LET w$=INKEY$: IF w$<"3" OR w$<"1" THEN GO TO 8100
```

```
8110 IF w$="1" THEN GO TO 8030
```

```
8120 IF w$="2" THEN GO TO 8000
```

8130 GO TO line

```
8500 CLS : PRINT "LOADING - Press a key when ready"
```

```
8510 IF INKEY$="" THEN GO TO 8510
```

```
8520 DIM o(16): LOAD "" DATA o(): LET line=o(16): GO TO line
9000 BORDER 1: INK 7: PAPER 1: FLASH 0: BRIGHT 0: OVER 0: INVERSE 0: CLEAR
```

```
9010 PRINT "(10sp)WELCOME TO(sp)"
```

```
9020 PRINT ""(3*sp,ig4,g3,ig7,sp,ig6,g3,ig7,sp,ig1,g4,ig5,sp,g3,ig4,g2,sp,ig4,g3,g2,sp,ig1,sp,ig5,9*sp,ig5,sp,ig5,sp,ig4,g3,ig5,sp,ig5,g2,ig5,2*sp,ig5,2*sp,ig4,g3,2*sp,ig5,g6,ig5,9*sp,2*g3,2*sp,g2,sp,g2,sp,g2,sp,g2,sp,2*g3,g2,sp,2*g3,g2,sp,g2,sp,g2)""
```

```
9030 PRINT ""You must destroy Damien, Son of the Devil, while he is still a(3*sp)baby and is thus relatively(5*sp)powerless."
```

```
9040 PRINT ""Press any Key to start"
```

```
9050 IF INKEY$="" THEN GO TO 9050
```

```
9055 POKE 23658,8: PRINT AT 16,0
```

```
9060 DIM o$(14,13): DIM o(16): LET o(15)=4
```

```
9070 RESTORE 9100: FOR q=1 TO 14: READ o$(q),o(q): NEXT q
```

```
9080 LET line=1000: GO TO line
9100 DATA "E",37,"AXE",1,"YELLOW KEY",4600,"RED KEY",1,"SILVER",4100,"GUN",4300,"SPADE",1,"RED CRYSTAL",3100,"BLACK CRYSTAL",1,"CROSS",1,"LAMB",2,"BLACK KEY",1,"WHITE KEY",8,"KNIVES",6200
```

```
9900 PRINT ""Bad luck - Have another go"
```

```
9990 INPUT "Press ENTER to replay, or 'NO' to clear this program out(sp)" LINE q$: IF q$="NO" THEN N RANDOMIZE USR 0
```

```
9991 RUN
```


ALIEN LANDING

HERE THEY come again, those awful aliens, spreading gloom, destruction, and obscure skin diseases all over the world. Will they succeed? Never — not while you are at the controls, at any rate. Use keys 5 and 8 to move your laser base and 0 to launch missiles at the horrible foe.

Alien Landing was written by Howard Ramsay of Glasgow for the ZX-81 with 16K. Howard says he would be thrilled if we publish his program. We hope the aliens are too.

```

100001 REM ALIEN LANDING
100002 LET B$=""
100003 LET C$=""
100004 SLOW
100005 LET HS=0
100006 REM INSTRUCTIONS
100007 FOR F=1 TO 22
100008 PRINT "
100009
100010 NEXT F
100011 PRINT AT 0,0;"
100012 AT 1,0;"ALIEN LANDING"
100013 AT 2,0;"B. HOWARD RAMSAY"
100014 PRINT AT 3,0;"
100015
100016 PRINT AT 6,3;"WELCOME TO AL
100017 IEN LANDING"
100018 PRINT AT 7,2;"
100019
100020 PRINT AT 9,0;" THE OBJECT
100021 OF THIS GAME IS TO PREVENT THE
100022 ALIENS FROM LANDING
100023 ON YOUR SHIP. YOU CAN DO THIS
100024 BY USING THE KEYS 5 AND 8 TO
100025 MOVE YOUR SHIP AND 0 TO
100026 LAUNCH MISSILES AT THE
100027 ALIENS. YOU CAN ALSO
100028 TYPE IN YOUR OWN CHARACTER
100029 FOR THE MESSAGE (Y) OR (N)
100030
100031 PRINT AT 17,0;" DO YOU WANT
100032 TO TYPE IN A CHARACTER?
100033 (Y) OR (N)
100034
100035 LET Z$=INKEY$
100036 IF Z$<>"N" AND Z$<>"Y" THEN
100037 GOTO 196
100038 IF Z$="N" THEN GOTO 202
100039 INPUT B$
100040 IF LEN B$<>1 THEN GOTO 199
100041 PRINT AT 10,20;B$
100042 PRINT AT 17,0;" DO YOU WANT
100043 TO TYPE IN YOUR OWN CHARACTER
100044 FOR THE MESSAGE (Y) OR (N)
100045
100046 LET X$=INKEY$
100047 IF X$<>"N" AND X$<>"Y" THEN
100048 GOTO 203
100049 IF X$="N" THEN GOTO 205
100050 INPUT C$
100051 IF LEN C$<>1 THEN GOTO 206
100052 FOR F=17 TO 21
100053 PRINT AT F,0;"
100054
100055 NEXT F
100056 PRINT AT 20,3;"PRESS A KEY
100057 TO BEGIN"
100058
100059 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 219
100060 FOR F=6 TO 25
100061 PRINT AT F,1;"
100062
100063 NEXT F
100064 PRINT AT 5,0;" YOU START
100065 WITH THREE MISSILES
100066 AND A LASER BASE. THE
100067 ALIENS WILL TRY TO
100068 DESTROY YOU. YOU CAN
100069 MOVE YOUR SHIP AND
100070 LAUNCH MISSILES AT
100071 THE ALIENS. YOU CAN
100072 ALSO TYPE IN YOUR
100073 OWN CHARACTER FOR THE
100074 MESSAGE (Y) OR (N)
100075
100076 PRINT AT 11,0;" USE THE FO
100077 LLOWING KEYS:
100078
100079 PRINT AT 12,4;"5-LEFT AT 1
100080 2,14;"8-RIGHT AT 14,4;"0-FIRE
100081 AT 14,14;"E-EXIT
100082 PRINT AT 16,0;" USE KEYS 5
100083 & 8 TO MOVE YOUR SHIP
100084
100085 PRINT AT 20,18;"PRESS A KEY
100086 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 290
100087 REM OFFLINE VARIABLES
100088 LET A=3
100089 LET B=INT (RND*29)+2
100090 LET C=20
100091 LET D=12
100092 LET E=.1
100093 LET LF=3
100094 LET SC=0
100095 LET Z=0
100096 REM PLAY
100097 FOR F=1 TO 22
100098 PRINT AT 21,0;"
100099

```



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740 NEXT F
741 FOR F=1 TO 21
742 PRINT AT F,0;" AT F,31;"
743
744 NEXT F
745 PRINT AT 0,0;" AT 21,0;"
746
747 PRINT AT 20,1;"
748
749 PRINT AT 1,1;"SCORES" SC:TA
750 B 11;"LF:AT 1,19;"HI-500
751 HS
752 PRINT AT A,B;B$ AT A,B;"
753 PRINT AT C,D;"
754 IF A>19 THEN GOTO 2000
755 IF AND E THEN GOSUB 900
756 IF B>29 THEN LET B=1
757 LET B=B+1
758 LET D=D+INKEY$="8")-(INKEY
759 $="5")
760 IF INKEY$="0" THEN GOSUB 10
761
762 IF D=27 THEN LET D=D-1
763 GOTO 760
764 REM STRAGER ALIEN
765 LET A=A+1
766 LET B=B+1
767 IF B>29 THEN LET B=1
768 IF A>19 THEN GOTO 2000
769 RETURN
770 REM FIRE
771 LET P=D+2
772 LET Q=19
773 PRINT AT Q,P;C$ AT Q,P;"
774 PRINT AT C,D;"
775 IF D=27 THEN LET D=26
776 LET Q=Q-1
777 LET A$=INKEY$
778 LET P=D-(A$="5")+(A$="8")
779 LET D=D-(A$="5")+(A$="8")
780 IF A$="1" THEN GOTO 1500
781 LET B=B+1
782 IF B>29 THEN LET B=2
783 PRINT AT A,B;B$ AT A,B;"
784 IF AND E THEN GOSUB 900
785 IF A=Q AND (B=P OR B=P+1 OR

```

```

B=P-1) THEN GOTO 1500
1110 IF Q<A THEN RETURN
1120 GOTO 1030
1500 PRINT AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;"
1501 AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;"
1502 AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;"
1503 IF A$="1" THEN GOTO 760
1504 PRINT AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;"
1505 AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;" AT Q,P;"
1510 LET SC=SC+(21-A)+10
1520 LET Z=Z+1
1530 IF Z=2 THEN LET LF=LF+1
1535 IF Z=2 THEN LET Z=0
1540 LET E=E+.1
1550 PRINT AT 1,7;SC
1551 LET A=3
1552 LET B=INT (RND*29)+2
1553 IF SC>HS THEN LET HS=SC
1554 LET D=12
1555 GOTO 710
2000 REM LF-2
2001 LET E=E-.1
2002 IF LF=LF-1
2003 LET LF=LF-1
2004 LET A=3
2005 LET D=12
2006 LET B=INT (RND*29)+2
2007 IF LF=0 THEN GOTO 700
2008 PRINT AT 1,1;"
2009 GOSUB 700
2010 FOR F=1 TO 20
2011 PRINT AT 20,1;"
2012 AT 20,1;"
2013
2014 NEXT F
2015 PRINT AT 20,1;"
2016
2017 PRINT AT 5,5;"ANOTHER GAME
2018 Y/N"
2019 LET A$=INKEY$
2020 IF A$="" THEN GOTO 2110
2021 IF A$="Y" THEN GOTO 500
2022 PRINT AT 7,8;"SURE (Y/N)?"
2023 LET A$=INKEY$
2024 IF A$="" THEN GOTO 2150
2025 IF A$="N" THEN GOTO 500
2026 NEW
2027 SAVE "ALIEN LANDING"
2028 RUN

```


OLYMPICS



BECOME THE second greatest athlete in the world in a gruelling four-event schedule. In the long jump you must press 'J' when you are told to jump. In the Shot Put press 'S' to start and 'T' to throw. In the 100 metres sprint press 'Z' and 'X' alternately to run. In the 400 metres hurdles you must press 'J' to jump.

Your best efforts will be displayed at the end along with your total score. Save the program with the command RUN 9000.

Olympics was written for the 16K ZX-81 by K Snowdon of Dunston in Tyne and Wear.

```

1 LET T5=0
2 GOSUB 1000
3 LET B=0
4 LET L=3
5 PRINT AT 21,0;A$
6 LET C=0
10 FOR N=31 TO 6 STEP -2
20 PRINT AT 20,N;" "
30 GOTO 510
100 FOR S=1 TO 5
110 NEXT S
120 RETURN
510 PRINT AT 14,3;" "AT 15,3;" "
   AT 17,4;" "AT 20,1;" "AT 19,
   1;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 17,1;" "A
   T 18,2;" "AT 17,2;" "AT 20,5;"
   "AT 20,4;" "AT 19,4;" "AT 18,
   3;" "AT 16,4;" "AT 16,3;" "A
   T 16,2;" "
520 PRINT AT 20,4;" "AT 20,3;"
   "AT 19,4;" "AT 19,3;" "AT 18,
   3;" "AT 19,1;" "AT 19,2;" "A
   T 16,3;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,2;"
   "AT 17,2;" "
521 PRINT AT 20,N-1;" "
522 PRINT AT 20,3;" "AT 20,1;"
   "AT 19,3;" "AT 19,1;" "AT 18,
   1;" "AT 17,1;" "AT 17,2;" "A
   T 18,2;" "AT 16,3;" "AT 19,2;"
   "AT 18,2;" "AT 16,2;" "AT 18,
   3;" "AT 17,3;" "AT 16,3;" "A
   T 15,3;" "AT 14,3;" "AT 19,4;"
   "AT 16,4;" "AT 20,4;" "AT 20,
   5;"
530 PRINT AT 20,N-1;" "

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```

540 NEXT N
542 IF INKEY$="J" THEN GOTO 780
550 PRINT AT 21,5;" "
560 FOR C=1 TO 100
570 IF INKEY$="J" THEN GOTO 600
580 NEXT C
600 PRINT AT 18,2;" "AT 19,1;"
   "AT 16,3;" "AT 20,1;" "AT 20,
   2;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 19,3;" "A
   T 18,3;" "AT 18,4;" "AT 19,4;"
   "AT 20,5;" "AT 20,4;" "AT 17,
   1;" "AT 17,2;" "AT 16,2;" "A
   T 17,4;" "AT 16,4;" "AT 16,4;"
605 PRINT AT 21,4;" "AT 16,2;"
610 PRINT AT 20,2;" "AT 16,2;"
   "AT 17,2;" "AT 20,3;" "AT 19,
   3;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 17,4;" "A
   T 15,4;" "AT 20,4;" "AT 19,4;"
   "AT 18,4;" "AT 18,3;"
615 PRINT AT 21,3;" "
620 PRINT AT 16,4;" "AT 20,3;"
   "AT 19,3;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 18,
   2;" "AT 18,3;" "AT 17,3;" "A
   T 15,3;" "AT 14,3;" "AT 13,3;"
   "AT 14,4;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,
   4;" "AT 18,4;" "AT 16,4;"
625 PRINT AT 21,2;" "
630 PRINT AT 16,4;" "AT 20,3;"
   "AT 19,3;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 18,
   2;" "AT 18,3;" "AT 17,3;" "A
   T 15,3;" "AT 14,3;" "AT 13,3;"
   "AT 14,4;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,
   4;" "AT 18,4;" "AT 16,4;"
632 PRINT AT 21,1;" "
635 PRINT AT 16,4;" "AT 20,3;"
   "AT 19,3;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 18,
   2;" "AT 18,3;" "AT 17,3;" "A
   T 15,3;" "AT 14,3;" "AT 13,3;"
   "AT 14,4;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,
   4;" "AT 18,4;" "AT 16,4;"
642 PRINT AT 21,0;" "
645 PRINT AT 14,3;" "AT 15,3;"
   "AT 16,3;" "AT 15,4;" "AT 1,
   6,4;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 17,5;"
   "AT 17,3;" "AT 18,3;" "AT 18,4;"
   "AT 18,5;" "AT 19,3;" "AT 1,
   9,4;" "AT 20,5;" "AT 20,6;"
652 PRINT AT 21,0;" "
655 LET AJ=INT ((RND)*100)/10
656 LET D=30-C+AJ
658 IF D<=0 THEN LET D=0
660 PRINT AT 0,5;" "D;"
670 IF D=0 THEN PRINT AT 2,9;" "
675 IF D>0 THEN LET B=D
680 IF L=B-1
690 IF L=0 THEN GOTO 740
700 FOR K=1 TO 30
710 NEXT K
720 CLS
730 GOTO 5
740 PRINT AT 0,5;" "B;" "

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745 GOTO 2000
780 LET C=31
790 GOTO 655
800 LET T=0
802 FOR L=1 TO 6
803 LET N=30
804 PRINT AT 21,0;A$
805 PRINT AT 19,3;" "AT 15,4;"
   "AT 20,2;" "AT 18,4;" "AT 20,
   N;" "AT 19,N;" "AT 14,3;"
   "AT 15,3;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 20,1
   "AT 19,1;" "AT 19,2;" "AT
   17,1;" "AT 18,2;" "AT 17,2;"
   "AT 20,5;" "AT 20,4;" "AT 19,4
   "AT 18,3;" "AT 16,4;" "AT
   16,3;" "AT 16,2;"
806 GOSUB 8000
810 PRINT AT 20,N;" "AT 19,N;"
   "AT 20,4;" "AT 20,3;" "AT
   19,4;" "AT 19,3;" "AT 18,3;"
   "AT 19,1;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 16,3
   "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,2;" "AT
   17,2;"
815 GOSUB 8000
830 PRINT AT 20,N;" "AT 19,N;"
   "AT 20,3;" "AT 20,1;" "AT
   19,3;" "AT 19,1;" "AT 19,1;"
   "AT 17,1;" "AT 17,2;" "AT 18,2
   "AT 16,3;" "AT 19,2;" "AT
   18,2;" "AT 16,2;" "AT 18,3;"
   "AT 17,3;" "AT 16,3;" "AT 15,3
   "AT 14,3;" "AT 19,4;" "AT
   16,4;" "AT 20,4;" "AT 20,5;"
835 GOSUB 8000
836 GOTO 805
840 PRINT AT 20,N;" "AT 19,N;"
   "AT 21,N;" "AT 18,2;"
   "AT 19,1;" "AT 16,3;" "AT 20,1;"
   "AT 20,2;" "AT 19,2;" "AT 1,
   9,3;" "AT 18,3;" "AT 18,4;"
   "AT 19,4;" "AT 20,5;" "AT 20,4;"
   "AT 17,1;" "AT 17,2;" "AT 1,
   6,2;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,4;"
   "AT 15,4;"
850 PRINT AT 20,N-1;" "AT 19,
   N-1;" "AT 21,N-1;" "AT 18,2;"
   "AT 16,2;" "AT 17,2;" "AT
   20,3;" "AT 19,3;" "AT 19,2;"
   "AT 17,4;" "AT 15,4;" "AT 20,
   4;" "AT 19,4;" "AT 18,4;" "AT
   18,3;"
860 PRINT AT 20,N-2;" "AT 19,
   N-2;" "AT 21,N-2;" "AT 20,
   3;" "AT 19,3;" "AT 19,2;" "AT
   18,3;" "AT 18,4;" "AT 17,3;"
   "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,2;" "AT 16,
   3;" "AT 16,4;" "AT 15,2;" "AT
   15,3;" "AT 15,4;" "AT 14,3;"
870 PRINT AT 20,N-3;" "AT 19,
   N-3;" "AT 21,N-3;" "AT 18,
   2;" "AT 17,4;" "AT 16,2;"
   "AT 15,2;"
872 PRINT AT 15,4;" "AT 16,4;"
   "AT 17,4;" "AT 18,4;" "AT 1,
   9,5;" "AT 20,N-4;" "AT 19,N-4;"
   "AT 21,N-4;"
875 PRINT AT 19,5;" "AT 20,N-5;"
   "AT 19,N-5;" "AT 21,N-5;"
   "AT 17,5;" "AT 18,2;" "AT
   20,3;" "AT 19,3;" "AT 19,2;"

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continued on page 124



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;AT 18,3;" ";AT 18,4;" ";AT 17,
3;" ";AT 17,4;" ";AT 16,2;" ";AT
16,3;" ";AT 16,4;" ";AT 15,2;"
";AT 15,3;" ";AT 15,4;" ";AT 14,
3;"
880 PRINT AT 17,3;" ";AT 20,N-5
";AT 19,N-6;" ";AT 21,N-6;"
";AT 19,5;" ";AT 14,3;" ";AT
15,3;" ";AT 15,2;" ";AT 16,2;"
";AT 17,4;" ";AT 17,2;" ";AT 20
3;" ";AT 19,3;" ";AT 19,2;" ";A
T 16,3;" ";AT 15,4;" ";AT 20,4;"
";AT 19,4;" ";AT 18,4;" ";AT 1
8,3;"
890 PRINT AT 17,3;" ";AT 16,3;"
";AT 20,0;" ";AT 19,0;" ";AT 21
0;" ";AT 20,3;" ";AT 18,2;"
";AT 19,1;" ";AT 16,3;" ";AT 20,1
";AT 20,2;" ";AT 19,2;" ";AT
19,3;" ";AT 18,3;" ";AT 18,4;"
";AT 19,4;" ";AT 20,5;" ";AT 20,4
";AT 17,1;" ";AT 17,2;" ";AT
16,2;" ";AT 17,4;" ";AT 16,4;"
";AT 15,4;"
900 PRINT AT 20,0;" ";AT 19,0;"
902 NEXT L
910 PRINT AT 0,5;"THE ";T;"500
B"
912 PAUSE 100
920 GOTO 2024
1000 LET A$="
1001 FOR N=1 TO 20
1010 PRINT AT 0,5;"THE LONG JUMP
B"
1020 FOR S=1 TO 5
1025 NEXT S
1030 PRINT AT 0,5;"THE LONG JUMP
B"
1035 NEXT N
1040 CLS
1045 RETURN
2000 LET TS=8*100
2002 PRINT AT 10,5;"POINT SO FAR
";TS
2004 PAUSE 100
2006 CLS
2009 GOTO 2500
2010 FOR S=1 TO 10
2012 PRINT AT 0,5;"400-METER-HUR
B"
2013 FOR E=1 TO 5
2014 NEXT E
2018 PRINT AT 0,5;"400*METER*HUR
DLES="
2020 NEXT S
2022 CLS
2023 GOTO 800
2024 LET TS=TS+((100-T)*100)
2030 CLS
2040 PRINT AT 0,0;"YOUR TOTAL PO
INTS WERE ";TS
2042 PRINT AT 2,0;"LONG JUMP ";B
";FEET";AT 4,0;"SHOT ";DL;"
FEET";AT 6,0;"100 METER ";T1;"S
ECS";AT 8,0;"400 METER ";T;" SEC
S"
2050 PRINT "PRESS 'Y' TO RUN
AGAIN","PRESS 'S' TO STOP"
2060 IF INKEY$="Y" THEN GOTO 901
0
2065 IF INKEY$="S" THEN STOP
2070 GOTO 2060
2500 FOR S=1 TO 10
2501 PRINT AT 0,5;"SHOT PUT"
2502 FOR E=1 TO 5
2503 NEXT E

```

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2504 PRINT AT 0,5;"SHOT PUT"
2505 NEXT S
2506 LET C=0
2507 LET L=3
2508 LET D=0
2509 PRINT AT 21,0;A$
2510 PRINT AT 20,1;" ";AT
19,1;" ";AT 18,1;" ";AT 17,
1;"0";AT 16,2;" ";AT 15,2;"
";AT 14,2;" ";AT 13,2;" ";AT 12,
2;" ";AT 11,2;" ";AT 10,2;"
2512 PRINT AT 2,5;"S" TO START
2513 IF INKEY$="S" THEN GOTO 251
5
2514 GOTO 2513
2515 PRINT AT 20,1;" ";AT
19,1;" ";AT 18,1;" ";AT 17,
1;"0";AT 16,2;" ";AT 15,2;"
";AT 14,2;" ";AT 13,2;" ";AT 12,
2;" ";AT 11,2;" ";AT 10,2;"
2516 GOSUB 100
2520 PRINT AT 20,1;" ";AT
19,1;" ";AT 18,1;" ";AT 17,1
;"0";AT 16,2;" ";AT 15,2;"
";AT 14,2;" ";AT 13,2;" ";AT 12,
2;" ";AT 11,2;" ";AT 10,2;"
2521 GOSUB 100
2530 PRINT AT 20,1;" ";A
T 19,1;" ";AT 18,1;" ";AT 17
,1;"0";AT 16,2;" ";AT 15,2;"
";AT 14,2;" ";AT 13,2;" ";AT 12,
2;" ";AT 11,2;" ";AT 10,2;"
2531 GOSUB 100
2540 PRINT AT 20,1;" ";AT 1
9,1;" ";AT 18,1;" ";AT 17,1;"
";AT 16,2;" ";AT 15,2;"
";AT 14,2;" ";AT 13,2;" ";AT 12,
2;" ";AT 11,2;" ";AT 10,2;"
2541 GOSUB 100
2550 PRINT AT 20,2;" ";AT 19,2
;" ";AT 18,3;" ";AT 17,3;" ";AT
16,2;" ";AT 15,3;"
";AT 14,3;" ";AT 13,3;" ";AT 12,
3;" ";AT 11,3;" ";AT 10,3;"
2551 GOSUB 100
2559 PRINT AT 20,2;" ";AT 19,2;"
";AT 18,2;" ";AT 17,2;" ";A
T 16,3;" ";AT 15,3;"
";AT 14,3;" ";AT 13,3;" ";AT 12,
3;" ";AT 11,3;" ";AT 10,3;"
2560 GOSUB 100
2561 PRINT AT 21,5;"
2562 IF INKEY$="T" THEN GOTO 257
0
2563 FOR C=30 TO 1 STEP -1
2564 IF INKEY$="T" THEN GOTO 257
0
2566 NEXT C
2570 PRINT AT 20,3;" ";AT 19,2;"
";AT 18,3;" ";AT 17,2;" ";AT
16,3;" ";AT 15,3;" ";AT 14
,5;"0"
2572 LET AJ=(INT ((RAND)*100))/10
0
2574 LET D=C+AJ
2576 PRINT AT 14,5;" ";AT 13,6;"
";AT 13,6;" ";AT 13,7;"0";AT 13
,7;" ";AT 14,8;"0";AT 14,8;" ";A
T 15,8;"0";AT 15,8;" ";AT 16,9;"
0";AT 16,9;" ";AT 17,9;"0";AT 17
,9;" ";AT 18,9;"0";AT 18,9;" ";A
T 19,10;"0";AT 19,10;" ";AT 20,1
0;"0"
2578 PRINT AT 0,5;"300-200-100-50-0";
D;"
2580 IF D>DL THEN LET DL=D
2582 LET L=L-1
2584 PAUSE 75
2585 IF L<=0 THEN GOTO 2590
2586 CLS
2587 GOTO 2508
2590 PRINT AT 0,5;"300-200-100-50-0";
DL;"
2591 LET TS=TS+DL*100
2592 PRINT AT 10,0;"POINTS SO FA
R ";TS
2593 PAUSE 100
2595 CLS
2700 FOR S=1 TO 10
2705 PRINT AT 0,5;"100*METERS"

```

```

2710 FOR E=1 TO 5
2715 NEXT E
2720 PRINT AT 0,5;"100-METER"
2721 NEXT S
2722 LET T1=0
2725 LET L=40
2800 PRINT AT 21,0;A$;AT 20,1;"
";AT 19,2;" ";AT 18,3;"
";AT 17,5;"
";AT 16,5;" ";AT 15,5;" ";AT 14,5;"
";AT 13,5;" ";AT 12,5;" ";AT 11,5;"
";AT 10,5;"
2810 PAUSE (INT (20*RND))+10
2822 PRINT AT 21,5;"60"
2823 LET T1=T1+.25
2824 IF INKEY$="Z" THEN GOTO 282
8
2826 GOTO 2823
2828 PRINT AT 21,5;"
";AT 20,2;" ";AT 19,2;" ";AT 18,2;"
";AT 17,2;" ";AT 16,4;"
";AT 15,4;" ";AT 14,4;"
";AT 13,4;" ";AT 12,4;" ";AT 11,4;"
";AT 10,4;"
2831 LET L=L-1
2874 PRINT AT 21,5;"Z"
2876 LET T1=T1+.25
2878 IF INKEY$="Z" THEN GOTO 288
0
2879 GOTO 2876
2880 PRINT AT 21,5;" ";AT 20,2;"
";AT 19,2;" ";AT 18,2;"
";AT 17,2;" ";AT 16,2;"
";AT 15,3;" ";AT 14,3;"
";AT 13,3;" ";AT 12,3;" ";AT 11,3;"
";AT 10,3;"
2891 LET L=L-1
2892 IF L<=4 THEN GOTO 2940
2893 IF L<=30 THEN PRINT AT 20,L
";
2900 PRINT AT 21,5;"X"
2905 LET T1=T1+.25
2910 IF INKEY$="X" THEN GOTO 292
0
2915 GOTO 2905
2920 PRINT AT 21,5;" ";AT 20,3;"
";AT 19,2;" ";AT 18,3;" ";A
T 17,3;" ";AT 16,2;" ";AT 15,3
";AT 14,3;" ";AT 13,3;" ";AT 12,3;"
";AT 11,3;" ";AT 10,3;"
2921 LET L=L-1
2922 IF L<=4 THEN GOTO 2940
2930 IF L<=30 THEN PRINT AT 20,L
";
2932 GOTO 2872
2940 LET AJ=(INT (RAND)*100)/100
2945 PRINT AT 0,5;"300-200-100-50-0";
T1+AJ;"
";
2950 PAUSE 100
2952 LET TS=TS+((40-T1)*100)
2954 CLS
2960 GOTO 2010
7999 STOP
8000 LET N=N-1
8010 IF N=6 THEN GOTO 8030
8020 RETURN
8030 LET C=0
8031 IF INKEY$="J" THEN LET T=T+
3
8035 PRINT AT 21,N;"300"
8040 FOR C=1 TO 10
8045 IF INKEY$="J" THEN GOTO 805
5
8050 NEXT C
8055 LET AJ=(INT ((RAND)*100))/10
0
8056 LET T=T+C+10+AJ
8060 GOTO 840
9000 SAVE "OLYMPIA"
9010 LET DL=0
9012 GOTO 1

```


GAS 'BILL'



GAS BILL is a useful little program to calculate the cost of keeping yourself warm and well-fed through the winter. The program requires you to enter the number of units used and the standing charge.

Of course, our readers would never dream of questioning the great Gas Board computer which sends out the bills, but many might like to reassure their nearest and dearest that the horrible figures are indeed the correct ones.

Gas Bill was written by J Ashburner of St Helens on Merseyside, and runs on the 16K Spectrum.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters so please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout.

```

5 POKE 23609,50: POKE 23658,8
10 BORDER 0: PAPER 0: INK 7: I
  NVERSE 0: OVER 0: BRIGHT 1: FLAS
  H 0: CLS
20 PRINT AT 2,5;"GAS BILL CALC
  ULATIONS(11,sp)BY(2*sp)T.G.ASHBU
  RNER AND(15*sp)J.M.ASHBURNER"
21 PRINT AT 20,10: INVERSE 1;"
  PRESS ANY KEY": INVERSE 0
22 PLOT 50,30: DRAW 155,0: DRA
  W 0,100: DRAW -155,0: DRAW 0,-10
  0
23 PLOT 50,80: DRAW 80,0: DRAW
  0,50
24 FOR n=60 TO 120 STEP 15: CI
  RCLE n,110,7: PLOT n,110: DRAW 5
  ,5: NEXT n
25 PLOT 140,85: DRAW 50,0: DRA
  W 0,40: DRAW -50,0: DRAW 0,-40
26 PLOT 170,90: DRAW 5,30: DRA
  W 3,0: DRAW -5,-30: DRAW -3,0: P
  RINT AT 7,18;"50p": PRINT AT 10,
  7: INVERSE 1;"537856 X": INVERSE
  0
40 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
50 CLS
60 LET Z=1.032: LET Y=0.335
65 PRINT "WHAT IS YOUR REFEREN
  CE NO ?(5*sp)(This is found at t

```

```

he top of thebill)"
70 INPUT LINE K$
75 PRINT AT 5,0;K$
90 PRINT AT 21,9: FLASH 1;"PRE
  SS ANY KEY"
100 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
110 CLS
200 PRINT "TYPE IN PRESENT METE
  R READING .."
210 INPUT A
215 IF A<1 THEN GO TO 110
220 PRINT AT 5,5;A
230 PRINT AT 10,0;"TYPE IN PREV
  IOUS READING.."
240 INPUT B
245 IF B>A THEN GO TO 230
250 PRINT AT 15,5;B
260 PRINT AT 21,9: FLASH 1;"PRE
  SS ANY KEY"
270 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
275 CLS
280 PRINT "WHAT IS YOUR STANDIN
  G CHARGE ?"
290 INPUT W
300 IF W<1 THEN GO TO 270
301 PRINT AT 5,5;W
310 PRINT AT 10,0;"HOW MANY PEO
  PLE ARE SHARING THE BILL ?"
320 INPUT X
325 IF X<1 OR X>20 OR X<>INT X
  THEN GO TO 310
330 PRINT AT 15,5;X
340 PRINT AT 21,9: FLASH 1;"PRE
  SS ANY KEY"
350 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
355 CLS
360 PRINT "REF. NO. ";K$
370 PRINT "(32*sp)"
376 PRINT
380 PRINT "PRESENT.....";A
390 PRINT
400 PRINT "PREVIOUS.....";B
420 PRINT
430 PRINT "UNITS USED.....";A-B
435 PRINT
436 PRINT "THERMS.....";(A-
  B)*Z
440 PRINT "-----
  "
450 PRINT
460 PRINT "STAND.CHGE....£";W
470 PRINT
480 PRINT "NO OF PEOPLE...";X
490 PRINT
491 LET C=((A-B)*Z*Y)+W
492 LET C=C*100: LET C=INT C: L
  ET C=C/100
495 PRINT "TOTAL CHARGE...£";C
500 PRINT
502 LET Q=C/X: LET Q=Q*100: LET
  Q=INT Q: LET Q=Q/100
510 PRINT "COST PER(24*sp)PERSO
  N.....£";Q
520 PRINT "-----
  "
530 PRINT "0";"(2*sp)(R)-RE-RUN
  (S)-STOP (C)-COPY"
540 IF INKEY$<>"" THEN GO TO 5
  40
550 IF INKEY$="R" OR INKEY$="r"
  THEN GO TO 50
555 IF INKEY$="C" OR INKEY$="c"
  THEN COPY
560 IF INKEY$="S" OR INKEY$="s"
  THEN GO TO 570
565 GO TO 550
570 CLS

```

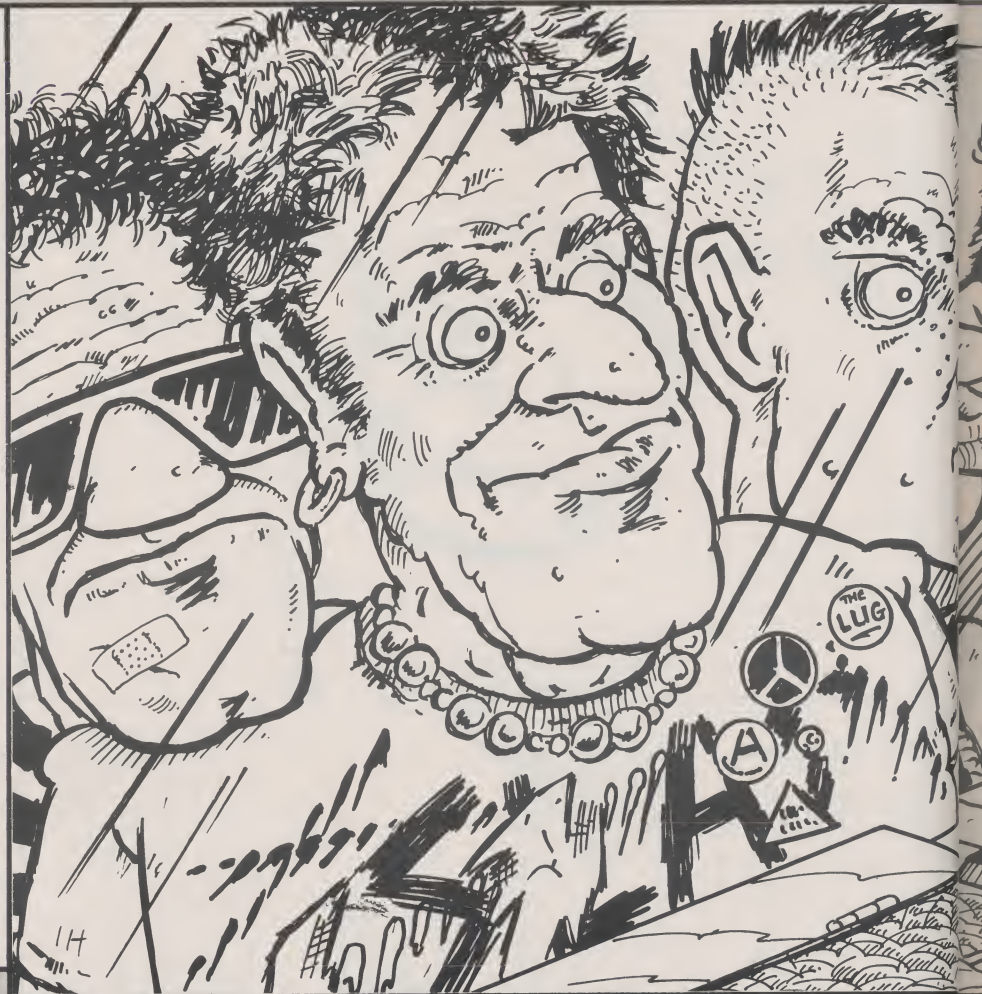

TAKE YOUR struggling rock band to the dizzying heights of an international tour in **On The Road**, a complex simulation of the heartache and happiness of a career in the music industry.

At each stage you are presented with a list of options. You may choose to record an album or arrange a live tour. Your band has a financial and status rating, and those must be high enough for your decision.

When you play live, you will only be allowed a limited number of gigs at a single venue, so plan carefully. Venues are described in terms of Audience quality (AQ) and variability (AV). The AV figure represents the degree of criticism you might expect, but the figures may not always tell the whole story.

On The Road was a runner-up in the 1984 Cambridge Awards competition, and was written by Ges and Hilary Taylor.

The program uses our special instructions for graphics characters, so please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout before entering the program.



```

5 CLEAR 65535: GO TO 1000
10 GO TO 1450
100 IF INKEY$<>" THEN GO TO 1
00
101 IF INKEY$="" THEN GO TO 10
1
102 RETURN
200 LET x=INT (RND*(u-1)+1)+1:
RETURN
301 LET y=(2^su)+4000
302 LET y=y+1000+(20*ss): RETUR
N
405 PRINT v$(i);TAB 20;r(i);TAB
23;a(i);TAB 25;INT i(i);TAB 31;
b(i): RETURN
505 PRINT AT 0,11;"TOUR VENUES"
: PRINT
507 PRINT AT 2,0;"(4*sp)VENUE(1
0*sp)AQ AV(2*sp)£(4*sp)B"
510 FOR i=L1 TO L2
515 FOR j=1 TO vb
520 IF c(j)=i THEN INVERSE 1:
GO SUB 400: INVERSE 0: GO TO 535
525 NEXT j
527 IF v(i)=mt THEN INVERSE 1:
GO SUB 400: INVERSE 0: GO TO 53
5
530 GO SUB 400
535 NEXT i
540 PRINT AT 18,0;"Select up to
5 venues for tour."
550 PRINT AT 19,0;"ENTER 0 if s
election complete."
555 PRINT AT 20,0;"ENTER 999 fo
r more choice.": RETURN
570 PRINT AT 21,5; FLASH 1;"VEN
UE NOT AVAILABLE"
575 GO TO 585
580 PRINT AT 21,5; FLASH 1;"VEN
UE ALREADY BOOKED"
590 PAUSE 100
595 PRINT AT 21,0;"(32*sp)"
605 INPUT v
610 IF v=0 THEN GO TO 3390

```

```

615 IF v=999 THEN RETURN
620 IF v<L OR v>U THEN GO TO 5
70
625 FOR j=1 TO vb
630 IF c(j)=v THEN GO TO 570
635 NEXT j
640 FOR j=1 TO 5
645 IF d(j)=v THEN GO TO 580
650 NEXT j
660 LET v(v)=v(v)+1: IF v(v)=mt
+1 THEN GO TO 570
665 LET gt=gt+1: LET vt=vt+1: L
ET d(vt)=v
685 LET nss=nss+((r(v)-RND*a(v)
)*(4-b(v)))
687 IF vt>=5 THEN GO TO 3390
690 GO TO 605
695 RETURN
705 LET A1=INT (RND*((ti/25)+ss
/3))
715 LET A3=(ti*ss)/10.25
720 PRINT AT 0,7;"FINAL STUDIO
COSTS": PRINT : PRINT
725 PRINT "ORIGINAL BOOKING FEE
S(4*sp)"
730 PRINT AT 4,28;"£"
735 PRINT AT 5,2;S$(S);AT 5,28;
S(S)*ti
740 PRINT AT 6,2;p$(p);AT 6,28;
p(p)*ti
745 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "ADDI
TIONAL FEES": PRINT
750 PRINT AT 11,2;"Extra studio
time "A1;" hrs";AT 11,28;INT (
s(s)*A1)
755 PRINT AT 12,2;"Extra mixing
time ";INT (A1/1.25);" hrs";AT
12,28;INT (p(p)*(A1/1.25))
760 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "SUND
RY EXPENSES": PRINT AT 15,28;INT
A3: PRINT : PRINT
765 LET cost=(s(s)*ti)+(p(p)*ti
)+INT (A1*ti)+INT ((A1/1.25)*ti)
+INT A3

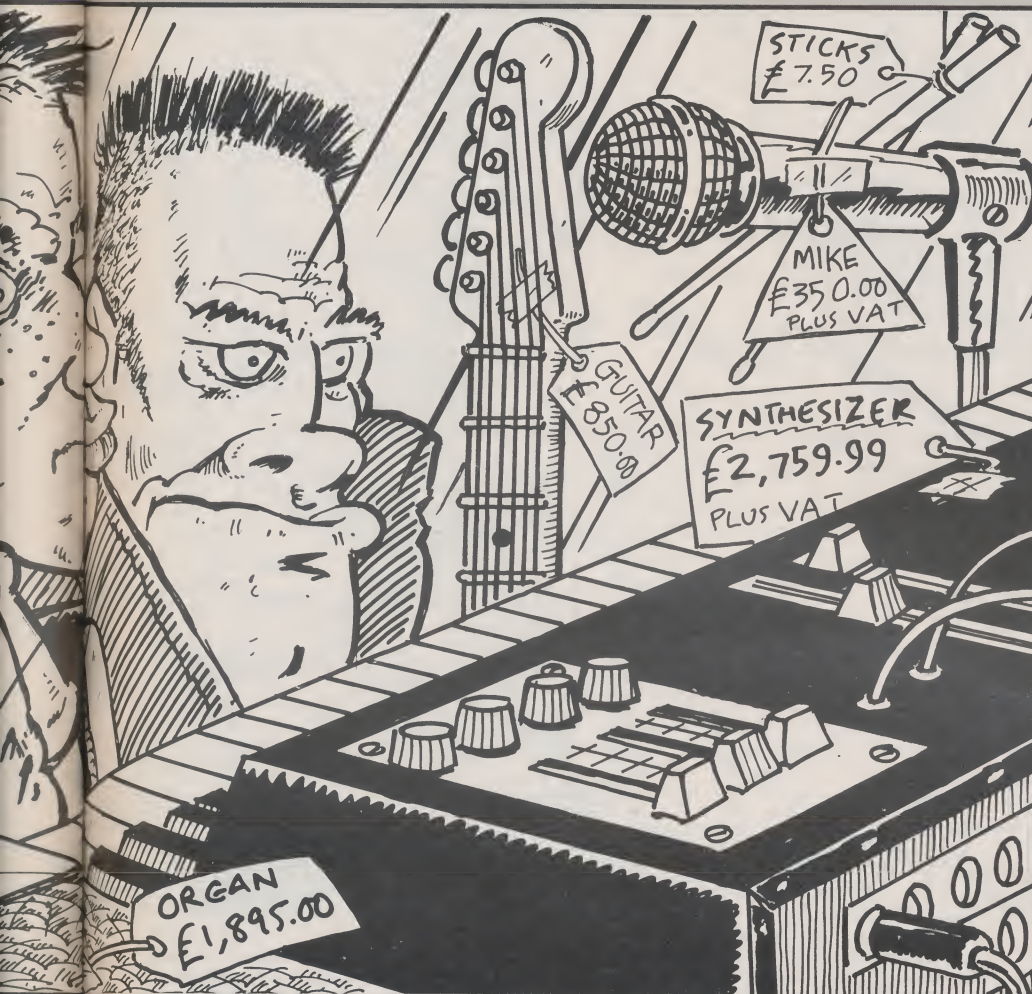
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770 PRINT AT 18,7;"TOTAL COSTS
£";cost
775 PRINT : PRINT : GO SUB 7000
: RETURN
805 PRINT AT 21,0;"COPY?": GO S
UB 100
810 IF INKEY$="Y" OR INKEY$="y"
THEN PRINT AT 21,0;"(6*sp)": C
OPY : RETURN
820 RETURN
1000 RANDOMIZE : BORDER 7: PAPER
7: INK 9: CLS
1006 POKE 23609,40: POKE 23658,8
1010 DIM b$(30): DIM a$(30)
1020 LET f=0: LET mo=50: LET we=
1: LET ss=0
1030 LET ct=0: DIM l$(5,7): LET
aw=0
1035 LET HH=0: LET la=0: LET na=
1160
1040 DIM s$(5,15): DIM p$(5,15):
DIM t$(5,15): DIM q$(5,15): DIM
s(8): DIM p(8): DIM t(16): DIM
q(16)
1050 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ l$(i): N
EXT i
1055 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ s$(i): N
EXT i
1060 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ p$(i): N
EXT i
1065 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ s(i): NE
XT i
1070 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ p(i): NE
XT i
1075 FOR i=1 TO 10: READ t(i): N
EXT i
1080 FOR i=1 TO 10: READ q(i): N
EXT i
1090 LET at=0: LET gt=0
1100 DIM v$(180,19): DIM v(180):
DIM a(180): DIM r(180): DIM b(1
80): DIM w(180): DIM i(180)
1110 FOR i=1 TO 180: READ v$(i):
NEXT i

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ROAD



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1130 FOR i=1 TO 180: LET a(i)=0:
NEXT i
1135 FOR i=1 TO 180: READ r(i):
NEXT i
1142 FOR i=1 TO 180: READ w(i):
NEXT i
1155 CLS : GO SUB na: GO TO 1390
1160 PRINT AT 0,10;"NAME THE BAND"
1165 PRINT : PRINT B$
1170 PRINT : PRINT "(3*sp)Type in the name you would(6*sp)like for your band.(13*sp)Press ENTER when finished."
1180 PRINT AT 10,0; "-----"
1190 FOR i=1 TO 30
1200 GO SUB 100
1210 LET b$(i)=INKEY$
1220 IF CODE b$(i)=13 THEN LET b$=b$(TO i-1): GO TO 1250
1230 PRINT AT 10,i;b$(i)
1240 NEXT i
1250 PRINT AT 21,0;"Is this correct? (Y/N)"
1260 GO SUB 100
1270 LET y$=INKEY$
1280 IF y$="N" OR y$="n" THEN PRINT AT 21,0;"(22*sp)": GO TO 1180
1290 IF y$<>"Y" AND y$<>"y" THEN GO TO 1260
1385 RETURN
1390 LET ra=((RND*41)+10)/10
1392 PRINT AT 21,0;"(22*sp)"
1394 PRINT AT 18,0;"Are you using a PRINTER? (Y/N)"
1395 LET pz=0: GO SUB 100
1396 IF INKEY$="Y" OR INKEY$="y" THEN LET pz=1
1400 PRINT AT 18,0;"How much assistance do you want?": PRINT : PRINT "(8*sp)1 (min) - 5 (max)"
1405 GO SUB 100

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1410 LET sk=VAL INKEY$
1415 IF sk<1 OR sk>5 THEN GO TO 1405
1420 LET ss=ra*sk
1425 LET stat=ss
1430 PRINT AT 15,0;"This dynamic, exciting new band is going ON THE ROAD with a(14*sp)STATUS of ";INT ss;"%"
1435 PRINT AT 18,0;"(32*sp)": PRINT AT 20,0;"(3*sp)PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE(4*sp)"
1440 PAUSE 10: PAUSE 0: CLS
1451 BORDER 7: PAPER 7: CLS
1452 LET stu=1900: LET liv=3000: LET fin=1600: LET sav=1550: LET end=7500
1455 PRINT AT 0,11;"ON THE ROAD": PRINT : PRINT
1460 PRINT AT 3,0;"1(2*sp)INTO THE STUDIO"
1465 PRINT AT 5,0;"2(2*sp)LIVE GIGS"
1468 PRINT AT 7,0;"3(2*sp)VENUE SCAN"
1470 PRINT AT 9,0;"4(2*sp)FINANCIAL REPORT"
1477 PRINT AT 11,0;"5(2*sp)SCORE"
1478 PRINT AT 13,0;"6(2*sp)SAVE GAME"
1480 PRINT AT 20,0;"Please select option required."
1485 GO SUB 100
1490 LET y$=INKEY$: CLS
1495 IF y$="1" THEN GO SUB stu: GO TO 1450
1500 IF y$="2" THEN GO TO liv
1503 IF y$="3" THEN GO SUB 4500: GO TO 1450
1505 IF y$="4" THEN GO SUB fin: GO TO 1450
1512 IF y$="5" THEN GO TO end
1515 IF y$="6" THEN GO SUB sav:

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GO TO 1450
1520 GO TO 1450
1552 BORDER 7: PAPER 7: CLS
1555 PRINT AT 10,0;"SAVE 'ON THE ROAD'."
1560 SAVE "road" LINE 10
1565 PRINT AT 10,0;"VERIFY 'ON THE ROAD'."
1570 VERIFY "road"
1575 CLS : RETURN
1601 BORDER 6: PAPER 6: CLS
1602 IF mo<=-1000 THEN PRINT AT 10,8; FLASH 1;"YOU ARE BANKRUPT!": PAUSE 200: STOP
1605 IF ss<=0 THEN PRINT AT 10,0;"The music press vote you this (3*sp)year's worst band and you decided to split.": PAUSE 200: STOP
1610 IF f=1 THEN GO TO 1630
1620 IF mo>=1000000 THEN LET ss=ss+1: LET f=1
1630 IF ss<100 THEN GO TO 1670
1640 IF f=1 THEN GO TO 1660
1650 IF mo<1000000 THEN LET ss=99: GO TO 1670
1660 PRINT AT 8,9; FLASH 1;"CONGRATULATIONS": PRINT : PRINT "You have achieved stardom and(3*sp)can retire to a life of(9*sp)luxury!"
1662 PAUSE 300: CLS : GO SUB 1680: STOP
1680 PRINT AT 0,8;"FINANCIAL REPORT"
1690 PRINT AT 2,1;B$
1700 PRINT : PRINT "Weeks ON THE ROAD.....(2*sp)":INT we
1705 PRINT "Gigs played.....(2*sp)":gt
1710 PRINT : PRINT "Albums made.....(2*sp)":at
1715 IF at=0 THEN GO TO 1725
1720 PRINT "Current album name.....(2*sp)":a$
1725 PRINT : PRINT "Initial status.....(2*sp)":INT stat;"%"
1730 PRINT "Current status.....(2*sp)":INT ss;"%"
1735 PRINT "(Actual status.....(2*sp)":INT (ss*10+.5)/10;"%)"
1740 PRINT : PRINT "Bank balance.....(2*sp)£":INT (mo*100+.5)/100
1745 IF pz=1 THEN GO SUB 800
1795 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE(4*sp)"
1796 PAUSE 10: PAUSE 0: CLS : RETURN
1991 BORDER 4: PAPER 4: CLS
1995 IF INT mo>=1000 THEN GO TO 1997
1996 GO TO 2010
1997 LET cost=0: LET nmo=0
2000 IF aw=0 THEN GO TO 2004
2002 IF we>aw THEN GO TO 2004
2003 GO TO 2010
2004 IF ct=1 THEN GO TO 2200
2005 IF ss>=10 THEN GO TO 2100
2010 PRINT "(11*sp)STUDIO NEWS": PRINT : PRINT
2015 PRINT "Your agent understands your(5*sp)enthusiasm to record an album."
2020 IF at>0 THEN PRINT "following the release of""a$: PRINT
2025 PRINT "but advises, at present, such an undertaking would be detrimental to the band's progress."
2030 PRINT AT 21,0;"PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE": PAUSE 50: PAUSE 0: CLS : RETURN
2105 LET j=INT (RND*5)+1: LET cc=INT (RND*3)+1: LET nmo=((8000*(ss-stat)/we)+(ss*ss))*cc
2106 LET c=0: LET nmo=nmo+INT (RND*1301)+200
2110 PRINT "(7*sp)RECORDING CONTRACT(7*sp)": PRINT : PRINT

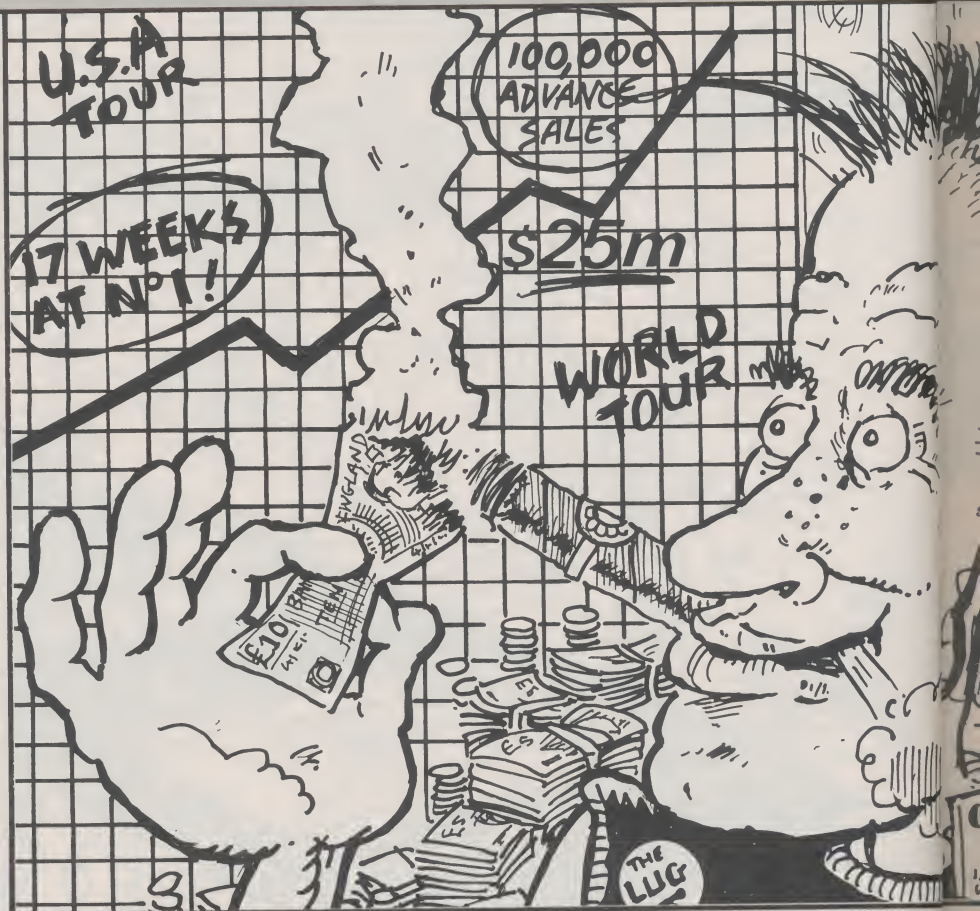
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continued on page 128


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2115 PRINT "Your agent has negoti
iated(7*sp)a contract on your be
half.": PRINT
2120 PRINT "LABEL(5*sp)DEAL(5*sp
)NO.RECORDS"
2125 PRINT AT 8,0;1$(j);AT 8,10;
"£";INT nmo;AT 8,24;cc
2130 PRINT AT 21,0;"Do you accep
t this offer? (Y/N)"
2135 GO SUB 100
2140 LET y$=INKEY$
2145 IF y$="n" OR y$="N" THEN L
ET aw=we+(INT (RND*5)+3): PRINT
AT 20,0;"Your agent will now res
ume(6*sp)talks with the record c
ompanies.": PAUSE 10: PAUSE 300:
CLS : RETURN
2150 IF y$<>"y" AND y$<>"Y" THEN
GO TO 2135
2151 LET ct=1: LET mo=mo+nmo: LE
T nmo=0
2152 PRINT AT 20,0;"Do you wish
to go straight""into the studio
? (Y/N)(10*sp)"
2153 GO SUB 100: IF INKEY$="y" O
R INKEY$="Y" THEN CLS : GO TO 2
155
2154 CLS : RETURN
2155 LET nmo=0
2200 IF INT ss>=0 AND INT ss<=5
THEN LET t=2: LET q=1
2205 IF INT ss>=6 AND INT ss<=15
THEN LET t=3: LET q=2
2210 IF INT ss>=16 AND INT ss<=3
0 THEN LET t=3: LET q=3
2215 IF INT ss>=31 AND INT ss<=5
0 THEN LET t=4: LET q=3
2220 IF INT ss>=51 AND INT ss<=6
0 THEN LET t=4: LET q=4
2225 IF INT ss>=61 THEN LET t=5
: LET q=5
2230 PRINT AT 0,9;"INTO THE STUD
IOS": PRINT : PRINT "STUDIOS"
2235 FOR i=1 TO t: PRINT i;"(2*s
p)";s$(i);" £";s(i);" hour": NEX
T i
2240 PRINT "PRODUCERS"
2245 FOR i=1 TO q: PRINT i;"(2*s
p)";p$(i);" £";p(i);" hour": NEX
T i
2250 PRINT AT 20,0;"Enter the nu
mber of the studio(2*sp)you wish
to use."
2255 INPUT s
2257 IF S<1 OR S>t THEN GO TO 2
255
2260 PRINT AT 15,0;"STUDIO(3*sp)
";s$(s)
2265 PRINT AT 20,0;"Enter the nu
mber of the produceryou wish to
use."
2270 INPUT p
2275 IF p<1 OR p>q THEN GO TO 2
270
2280 PRINT AT 16,0;"PRODUCER ";p
$(p)
2285 PRINT AT 18,0;"STUDIO TIME"
;AT 19,0;"You should book betwee
n(9*sp)10 & 100 hours.(17*sp)";A
T 21,0;"Enter required number of
hours."
2290 INPUT ti
2292 LET ti=INT ti
2295 IF ti<10 THEN GO TO 2290
2305 IF ti>=10 AND ti<=49 THEN
LET ti=5: LET t2=10
2310 IF ti>=50 AND ti<=80 THEN
LET ti=10: LET t2=25
2320 IF ti>=81 THEN LET ti=30:
LET t2=50
2325 PRINT AT 21,0;"(32*sp)"
2330 PRINT AT 21,0;"HOURS BOOKED
";INT ti
2331 PRINT #1;"(3*sp)PRESS ANY K
EY TO CONTINUE"
2332 PAUSE 0: CLS
2334 PRINT AT 0,9;"IN THE STUDIO
"
2335 PRINT AT 3,6; INK 7; PAPER
0; FLASH 1;"ALBUM NOW RECORDING"
2337 INK 0: FOR i=50 TO 25 STEP

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-3: CIRCLE 115,75,i: NEXT i
2338 INK 7: FOR i=20 TO 5 STEP -
1: CIRCLE 115,75,i: NEXT i: INK
9
2340 PAUSE 150: GO SUB 700
2343 LET u=t(s*2): LET l=t(s*2)-
1: GO SUB 200: LET a=x
2345 LET u=q(p*2): LET l=q(p*2)-
1: GO SUB 200: LET ba=x
2350 LET u=t2: LET l=t1: GO SUB
200: LET k=x
2355 LET su=(a+ba+k)/10
2356 LET su=su+ss/100
2358 IF su>17 THEN LET su=17
2363 LET mo=mo-cost
2365 LET we=we+1
2370 LET aw=we+(INT (RND*6)+12)
2373 LET at=at+1
2375 LET c=c+1
2380 IF c>cc THEN LET ct=0: LE
T AW=AW-4
2385 IF su<=5 THEN LET u=1: LET
l=0
2390 IF su>5 AND Su<=7 THEN LET
u=125: LET l=25
2395 IF su>7 AND Su<=9 THEN LET
u=175: LET l=75
2400 IF su>9 AND Su<=11 THEN LE
T u=225: LET l=125
2405 IF su>11 AND Su<=13 THEN L
ET u=275: LET l=175
2410 IF su>13 AND Su<=15 THEN L
ET u=325: LET l=225
2415 IF su>15 AND Su<=17 THEN L
ET u=375: LET l=275
2420 IF su>17 AND Su<=19 THEN L
ET u=425: LET l=325
2425 IF su>19 AND Su<=20 THEN LE
T u=450: LET l=375
2426 IF su=20 THEN LET u=500: L
ET l=400
2428 IF su>18 THEN LET su=18
2430 GO SUB 200: LET nss=x/100
2435 GO SUB 300: LET nmo=y
2440 LET mo=mo+nmo: LET ss=ss+ns
s
2500 PRINT AT 0,9;"ALBUM RELEASE
"

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2505 PRINT : PRINT "(2*sp)Your a
lbum has been recorded(4*sp)and
is ready for release.(7*sp)All t
hat remains is for you(5*sp)to g
ive it a title."
2510 PRINT : PRINT "Type in the
name you would(6*sp)like for you
r album.(12*sp)Press 'ENTER' whe
n finished."
2520 PRINT AT 12,0;" -----
"
2530 FOR i=1 TO 30
2540 IF INKEY$<>" " THEN GO TO 2
540
2545 IF INKEY$=" " THEN GO TO 25
45
2550 LET a$(i)=INKEY$
2555 IF CODE A$(i)=13 THEN LET
A$=A$( TO i-1): GO TO 2570
2560 NEXT i
2570 PRINT AT 21,0;"Is this corr
ect? (Y/N)"
2575 GO SUB 100
2580 IF INKEY$="N" OR INKEY$="n"
THEN PRINT AT 21,0;"(32*sp)":
GO TO 2500
2590 CLS
2600 PRINT AT 0,10;"ADVANCE SALE
S": PRINT
2605 PRINT "Record shops through
out Britain have made advance or
ders for(4*sp)your latest album,
""a$
2610 PRINT : PRINT "RECORDING CO
STS £";INT cost
2620 PRINT : PRINT "ADVANCE SALE
S £";INT nmo
2630 IF nmo>cost THEN PRINT :
PRINT "PROFIT(10*sp)£";INT (nmo-
cost)
2635 IF nmo<cost THEN PRINT : P
RINT "LOSS(12*sp)£";INT (cost-nm
o)
2640 PRINT : PRINT "Please wait
while news of your(2*sp)success
spreads nationwide."
2641 IF nmo-cost<0 THEN GO TO 2

```




```

650
2642 FOR i=1 TO 180
2643 IF nmo-cost<50000 THEN LET
  r(i)=r(i)+2
2644 IF nmo-cost>=50000 THEN LET
  r(i)=r(i)+(INT (RND*3)+2)
2645 IF r(i)>=15 THEN LET r(i)=
  15
2646 NEXT i
2648 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
  ANY KEY TO CONTINUE(4*sp)"
2650 PAUSE 0: GO SUB 5000
2652 CLS : RETURN
3002 BORDER 5: PAPER 5: CLS
3010 PRINT AT 0,11;"LIVE GIGS":
  PRINT
3015 PRINT "(2*sp)TOUR(20*sp)STA
  TUS"
3020 PRINT : PRINT "1 PUBS & CLU
  BS(13*sp)0-18"
3021 PRINT : PRINT "2 COLLEGES(1
  6*sp)15-45"
3022 PRINT : PRINT "3 BRITAIN(17
  *sp)25-100"
3023 PRINT : PRINT "4 EUROPE(18*
  sp)60-100"
3024 PRINT : PRINT "5 USA & JAPA
  N(13*sp)45-100"
3025 PRINT AT 16,0;"Your status
  is ";INT ss
3030 PRINT AT 18,0;"Select tour
  required."
3035 PRINT AT 20,0;"(32*sp)";AT
  21,0;"(32*sp)"
3037 GO SUB 100
3040 LET y$=INKEY$
3043 PRINT AT 20,0;B$;AT 21,0;"a
  re going.....ON THE ROAD!"
3045 IF y$="1" AND INT ss<=18 TH
  EN GO TO 3080
3050 IF y$="2" AND INT ss>=15 AN
  D INT ss<=45 THEN GO TO 3095
3055 IF y$="3" AND INT ss>=25 AN
  D INT ss<=100 THEN GO TO 3110
3060 IF y$="4" AND INT ss>=60 AN
  D INT ss<=100 THEN GO TO 3125
3065 IF y$="5" AND INT ss>=45 AN
  D INT ss<=100 THEN GO TO 3140

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3070 GO TO 3035
3080 LET E=1: LET mt=5: LET xx=4
  : LET yy=5: LET zz=.25: LET uu=0
  : LET uu=2 AND ss>=10: LET uu=uu
  +2: LET pp=8
3085 LET bx=1: LET L=1: LET U=40
3090 GO TO 3155
3095 LET yy=0: LET mt=5: LET xx=
  4: LET yy=.5 AND ss>=21: LET yy=
  yy+3: LET zz=.75: LET uu=1: LET
  pp=20
3100 LET bx=2: LET L=41: LET U=8
  0
3105 GO TO 3155
3110 LET xx=3.5: LET yy=8: LET z
  z=1.5: LET uu=1: LET pp=55
3111 IF HH=0 THEN LET MT=8: GO
  TO 3115
3112 IF HH=1 THEN LET MT=10
3115 LET bx=3: LET L=81: LET U=1
  20
3120 GO TO 3155
3125 LET mt=3: LET xx=3: LET yy=
  10: LET zz=2: LET uu=30: LET pp=
  60
3130 LET bx=4: LET L=121: LET U=
  150
3135 GO TO 3155
3140 LET mt=3: LET xx=4: LET yy=
  40: LET zz=2: LET uu=70: LET pp=
  70
3145 LET bx=5: LET L=151: LET U=
  180
3155 LET vt=0: LET bil=0: LET we
  =we+1: LET nss=0: LET inc=0: LET
  kost=0: DIM c(5): DIM d(5)
3170 FOR i=L TO U
3175 IF bx=1 THEN LET b(i)=1
3180 IF bx=2 AND INT ss>=15 AND
  INT ss<=20 THEN LET b(i)=2
3185 IF bx=2 AND INT ss>=21 AND
  INT ss<=35 THEN LET b(i)=INT (R
  ND*2)+1
3190 IF bx=2 AND INT ss>=36 AND
  INT ss<=45 THEN LET b(i)=1
3194 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=25 AND
  INT ss<=29 THEN LET b(i)=3
3195 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=30 AND
  INT ss<=40 THEN LET b(i)=INT (R
  ND*2)+2
3200 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=41 AND
  INT ss<=59 THEN LET b(i)=INT (R
  ND*3)+1
3205 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=60 AND
  INT ss<=63 THEN LET b(i)=2
3210 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=64 AND
  INT ss<=89 THEN LET b(i)=INT (R
  ND*2)+1
3215 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=90 AND
  INT ss<=100 THEN LET b(i)=1
3220 IF bx=4 AND INT ss>=60 AND
  INT ss<=75 THEN LET b(i)=2
3225 IF bx=4 AND INT ss>=76 AND
  INT ss<=90 THEN LET b(i)=INT (R
  ND*2)+1
3230 IF bx=4 AND INT ss>=91 AND
  INT ss<=100 THEN LET b(i)=1
3234 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=45 AND
  INT ss<=52 THEN LET b(i)=3
3235 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=53 AND
  INT ss<=69 THEN LET b(i)=INT (R
  ND*2)+2
3240 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=70 AND
  INT ss<=89 THEN LET b(i)=INT (R
  ND*2)+1
3245 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=90 AND
  INT ss<=100 THEN LET b(i)=1
3250 NEXT i
3260 FOR i=L TO U
3265 LET i(i)=(w(i)*(xx-b(i)))+(
  ((r(i)+2)*(INT ss-pp))/2)
3270 NEXT i
3273 CLS
3325 LET vb=INT (RND*5)+1
3330 FOR i=1 TO vb
3335 GO SUB 200
3340 LET c(i)=x
3345 NEXT i
3348 LET l1=L: LET l2=L+14
3350 GO SUB 500: GO SUB 600
3355 LET l1=L+15: LET l2=L+29
3360 GO SUB 500: GO SUB 600
3365 IF bx=4 OR bx=5 THEN GO TO
  3347
3370 LET l1=L+30: LET l2=L+39
3375 GO SUB 500
3380 FOR i=13 TO 17: PRINT AT i,
  0;"(32*sp)": NEXT i
3383 GO SUB 600
3385 GO TO 3347
3390 IF vt>0 THEN GO TO 3435
3395 CLS
3400 PRINT AT 0,5;"WEEK'S GIGS C
 ANCELLED"
3410 PRINT : LET tcc=20*INT ss
3420 PRINT "Loss of revenue(5*sp
  )£";tcc
3423 LET mo=mo-tcc
3425 PAUSE 200: CLS
3430 GO TO 1450
3440 FOR i=1 TO vt
3445 LET inc=inc+i(d(i))
3450 NEXT i
3458 IF NOT bx=1 THEN GO TO 346
  2
3460 LET kost=(vt*ss*ss)/(yy+(ss
  *E/20))+((ss*uu)+(RND*76)+50)
3461 GO TO 3465
3462 LET kost=(vt*ss*yy)+(ss*uu)
  +((RND*100)+50)
3470 FOR i=1 TO vt
3475 LET bil=bil+b(d(i))
3477 IF bil>9 THEN LET bil=9
3480 NEXT i
3485 LET nss=nss/((bil+1)*25)
3490 CLS
3495 PRINT AT 0,10;"ON THE ROAD"
  : PRINT
3500 PRINT "H.M.G. PRODUCTIONS p
  resents": PRINT : PRINT b$: PRIN
  T
3505 PRINT "live on tour at :-"
3510 FOR i=1 TO vt
3515 PRINT : PRINT "(3*sp)";v$(d
  (i))
3520 NEXT i
3523 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
  ANY KEY TO CONTINUE"
3525 PAUSE 0
3530 CLS
3540 GO SUB 4000
3570 CLS
3575 PRINT AT 0,10;"TOUR REPORT"
  : PRINT
3620 PRINT : PRINT "TOTAL TOUR I
  NCOME(3*sp)£";INT inc
3625 PRINT "TOTAL TOUR COSTS(4*sp
  p)£";INT kost
3630 IF INT inc-INT kost<0 THEN
  PRINT "LOSS(16*sp)£";INT inc-IN
  T kost: LET ss=ss-zz: GO TO 3640
3635 PRINT "PROFIT(14*sp)£";INT
  inc-INT kost
3640 LET low=INT (RND*2)
3642 IF low=1 THEN GO TO 3685
3643 PRINT : PRINT
3645 PRINT "You are advised that
  these(6*sp)venues may not come
  up to(7*sp)expectation on future
  tours."
3646 PRINT
3655 FOR i=1 TO vt
3658 IF bx=1 THEN LET j=INT (RN
  D*80)+1
3660 IF bx=2 THEN LET j=INT (RN
  D*80)+41
3661 IF bx=3 THEN LET j=INT (RN
  D*70)+81
3662 IF bx=4 OR bx=5 THEN LET j
  =INT (RND*100)+81
3670 LET a(j)=a(j)+INT (RND*3)
3672 IF a(j)>5 THEN LET a(j)=5
3675 PRINT v$(j)
3680 NEXT i
3690 PRINT AT 18,0;"(4*sp)Your f
  inances are being(5*sp)calculat
  ed by HMG productions.(13*sp)PLEA
  SE WAIT"
3700 LET ss=ss+nss: LET mo=mo+(i
  nc-kost)
3707 FOR i=L TO U

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continued on page 130


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3708 FOR j=1 TO vt
3709 IF v$(i)=v$(d(j)) THEN GO TO 3723
3711 NEXT j
3713 LET rr=INT (RND*3)-1
3715 LET r(i)=r(i)+rr
3718 IF r(i)<-2 THEN LET r(i)=2
3720 IF r(i)>15 THEN LET r(i)=15
3723 NEXT i
3725 FOR i=1 TO vt
3727 LET r(d(i))=r(i)-2
3731 IF r(d(i))<-2 THEN LET r(d(i))=-2
3732 IF r(d(i))>15 THEN LET r(d(i))=15
3734 NEXT i
3750 GO SUB 7000: GO SUB 5000: CLS : GO TO 1450
4010 PRINT AT 0,12;"TOUR NEWS": PRINT
4020 PRINT TAB 3;"VENUE";TAB 20;"PERF.(2*sp)AUD.": PRINT
4030 LET X$="vgoodgood toughpoor awful"
4040 LET Z$="vgoodgood avge poor vpoor"
4045 FOR i=1 TO vt
4048 LET ar=INT (RND*5)+1
4050 LET ap=INT (RND*5)+1
4060 LET u$=x$((ar*5-4) TO (ar*5))
4070 LET w$=z$((ap*5-4) TO (ap*5))
4080 PRINT v$(d(i));"(sp)";W$;"(sp)";U$
4090 IF ar=1 THEN LET a(d(i))=0 : LET r(d(i))=r(d(i))+1
4091 IF ar=2 THEN LET a(d(i))=0
4096 IF ar=5 THEN LET a(d(i))=a(d(i))+1
4098 IF a(d(i))>5 THEN LET a(d(i))=5
4100 IF ap=1 THEN LET r(d(i))=r(d(i))+3
4102 IF ap=2 THEN LET r(d(i))=r(d(i))+2
4103 IF ap=3 THEN LET r(d(i))=r(d(i))+1
4107 IF ap=5 THEN LET r(d(i))=r(d(i))-1
4108 IF r(d(i))<-2 THEN LET r(d(i))=-2
4109 IF r(d(i))>15 THEN LET r(d(i))=15
4111 NEXT i
4112 PRINT AT 12,0;"PERF. - Your rating of the gig."
4115 PRINT AT 14,0;"AUD.(2*sp)- The audience's response."
4130 GO SUB 7000: RETURN

4503 BORDER 2: PAPER 2: CLS
4504 PRINT AT 0,12;"VENUE SCAN"
4505 PRINT AT 1,6;"Venue";AT 1,18;"Times played"
4508 POKE 23692,255
4510 FOR i=1 TO 180
4515 PRINT v$(i);"(2*sp)";v(i): PAUSE 35
4518 NEXT i
4525 PRINT "(3*sp)PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE": PAUSE 0
4530 POKE 23692,1: RETURN
5010 CLS : LET H=INT (RND*18)+1
5020 GO SUB H*100+5000
5040 RETURN
5100 IF NOT aw-we>20 THEN RETURN
5102 GO SUB 7070
5105 PRINT "A single has been taken from" a$: PRINT
5110 LET sg=INT (RND*15)+1
5115 IF sg<=5 THEN LET mo=mo-1000: LET g$="FLOP."
5120 IF sg>=6 AND sg<=10 THEN LET mo=mo+2500: LET SS=ss+.5: LET g$="Chart entry."
5125 IF sg>=11 AND sg<=13 THEN LET mo=mo+2500: LET ss=ss+1: LET

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g$="Top 20 hit."
5130 IF sg>=14 THEN LET mo=mo+5000: LET ss=ss+1.5: LET g$="Top 10 hit."
5140 PRINT "This single is a ";g$
5145 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5200 IF NOT (we=26 OR we=78 OR we=130 OR we=182) THEN RETURN
5201 GO SUB 7070
5205 PRINT "You are asked to play READING(3*sp)Do you accept? (Y/N)": PRINT
5210 GO SUB 100
5215 LET y$=INKEY$
5218 IF Y$<>"Y" AND Y$<>"y" THEN RETURN
5220 LET mo=mo+(ss*100): LET GT=GT+1: LET ss=ss+2: PRINT : PRINT "READING BOOKED - INCOME £";INT ss*100
5232 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5300 IF NOT ss>90 THEN RETURN
5302 GO SUB 7070
5305 PRINT "Your agent has arranged for you to headline at WEMBL Y"
5310 PAUSE 70: PRINT
5315 PRINT "How many nights do you want(5*sp)to book? (0 - 4)": PRINT
5320 INPUT wb
5325 IF wb<0 OR wb>4 THEN GO TO 5320
5328 PRINT "Nights booked = ";wb
5330 IF wb=0 THEN RETURN
5335 PRINT "INCOME £";INT (wb*ss*60)
5340 LET mo=mo+(wb*ss*60): LET ss=ss+2: LET GT=GT+WB
5350 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5400 GO SUB 5200: RETURN
5500 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "New equipment costs £";INT ss*12: LET mo=mo-(ss*12)
5505 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5600 IF NOT gt>100 THEN RETURN
5602 GO SUB 7070
5603 LET hol=INT (RND*4)+1
5605 PRINT "The band takes a break""of ";hol;" weeks.": LET we=we+hol
5610 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5700 IF NOT (we=20 OR we=75 OR we=123 OR we=177) THEN RETURN
5701 GO SUB 7070
5705 PRINT "You are asked to play DONINGTON Do you accept? (Y/N)": PRINT
5710 GO SUB 100
5715 LET y$=INKEY$
5718 IF Y$<>"y" AND Y$<>"Y" THEN RETURN
5720 LET mo=mo+(ss*125): LET GT=GT+1: LET ss=ss+2.5: PRINT : PRINT "DONINGTON BOOKED - INCOME £";INT ss*125
5735 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5800 GO SUB 5700: RETURN

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5900 IF NOT ss>75 THEN RETURN
5902 GO SUB 7070
5910 PRINT "Lighting expert Dave 'Hurricane'Cox has designed a new laser (4*sp)extravaganza."";"Cost £";INT ss*9.9
5915 LET mo=mo-(INT ss*9.9): LET ss=ss+2: GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6000 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "Mick 'Lager-Dash' Cox, one of(3*sp)your roadies, has been caught(3*sp)in possession of the dreaded(4*sp)weed.(2*sp)Fine costs £";INT (20*ss);".": LET mo=mo-(20*ss)
6005 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6100 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "Fan-club secretary Debb 'Love(3*sp)Loaded' Cotterill designs a(5*sp)new logo for tour merchandise."
6105 PRINT : PRINT "Additional income £";INT (ss*25): LET mo=mo+INT (ss*25)
6150 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6200 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "Marion the 'Backstage Queen'(4*sp)devises a new stage show for(4*sp)future gigs"
6203 PRINT : PRINT "Costs £";INT (ss*10)+75: LET mo=mo+INT (ss*10)+75
6205 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6300 IF at<=0 THEN RETURN
6305 GO SUB 7070
6308 LET als=((RND*100)+50)*ss*at
6310 PRINT "Receipts from album sales:-""(13*sp)£";INT als
6315 LET ss=ss+.5*at: LET mo=mo+als
6350 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6400 IF NOT aw-we>23 THEN RETURN
6401 GO SUB 7070
6402 LET cov=INT (RND*4)+1
6405 PRINT "Printers have difficulty(8*sp)producing your album cover.(5*sp)Release date set back ";cov;" weeks."
6410 PRINT : PRINT "Do you wish to postpone any tour plans? (Y/N)"
6415 GO SUB 100
6420 LET y$=INKEY$
6423 IF Y$<>"y" AND Y$<>"Y" THEN RETURN
6425 LET we=we+cov
6430 LET ss=ss-(INT (RND*3)+1)
6440 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6500 GO SUB 7070
6505 LET err=(RND*16)+5: LET err=err/10: LET err=INT (err*10+.5)/10
6510 PRINT "G & HM Taylor, your financial(3*sp)advisers, tell you of an(8*sp)accounting error of ";err;"%"
6512 LET erx=INT (RND*2): IF erx=1 THEN GO TO 6530
6515 PRINT : PRINT "DEDUCTION :

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£";INT (MO*err/100)
6520 LET MO=MO-(MO*err/100)
6525 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6530 PRINT : PRINT "ADDITION : £
";INT (MO*err/100)
6535 LET MO=MO+(MO*err/100)
6540 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6600 IF NOT (SS)=85 AND WE>=182)
THEN RETURN
6605 GO SUB 7070
6610 PRINT AT 5,5; FLASH 1;"CONF
IRMATION OF TOURS": PRINT : PRIN
T
6615 PRINT "The deal negotiated
by H.M.G.(3*sp)productions revis
es the 8-gig(3*sp)restriction im
posed by venues on the British ci
rcuit (81-120)".
6620 PRINT : PRINT " VENUES(3*sp
)CIRCUIT(4*sp)GIG LIMIT(2*sp)"
6630 PRINT "(2*sp)1-80(4*sp)PUBS
etc(7*sp)5(6*sp)"
6635 PRINT FLASH 1;" 81-120(3*sp
)BRITISH(7*sp)10 "
6640 PRINT "121-150(3*sp)EUROPEA
N(7*sp)3"
6645 PRINT "151-180(3*sp)USA/JAP
AN(6*sp)3"
6650 LET HH=1
6690 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6700 GO SUB 6600: RETURN
6800 GO SUB 6600: RETURN
7000 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
ANY KEY TO CONTINUE": PAUSE 10:
PAUSE 0: CLS : RETURN
7070 BORDER 7: PAPER 7: CLS
7071 PRINT AT 0,14;"NEWS": PRINT
: PRINT : PRINT : PRINT : RETUR
N
7501 BORDER 6: PAPER 6: CLS
7505 LET CG=(SS-INT stat)/(we-
0.95)*1000
7511 LET XXX=XXX+SS
7522 LET XXX=INT XXX
7560 IF XXX>250 THEN PRINT "(5
*sp)"; FLASH 1;"LIKE IT'S TIME T
O QUIT"
7565 IF XXX>251 AND XXX<=350 TH
EN PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"V
ERY POOR"
7570 IF XXX>351 AND XXX<=450 TH
EN PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"P
OOR"
7575 IF XXX>451 AND XXX<=600 TH
EN PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"A
VERAGE"
7580 IF XXX>601 AND XXX<=700 TH
EN PRINT ;"(12*sp)"; FLASH 1;"G

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OOD"
7585 IF XXX>=701 AND XXX<=850 TH
EN PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"V
ERY GOOD"
7588 IF XXX>=851 AND XXX<=950 TH
EN PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"E
XCELLENT"
7590 IF XXX>=951 THEN PRINT ;"(
10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"OUTSTANDING"
7592 IF PZ=1 THEN GO SUB 8000
7603 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
ANY KEY TO CONTINUE"
7605 PAUSE 10: PAUSE 0: CLS : GO
TO 1450
8005 DATA "EBONY","NEAT","PEGASU
S","VERTIGO","POLYDOR"
8010 DATA "The Barn","DeneWood",
"Azimuth Studios","Brinney Coppi
ce","Peckingham Hall"
8015 DATA "Bob Amu","Mike Newton
","Tom Biddle","Ian Green","Roge
r Fisher"
8020 DATA 25,40,50,70,99
8025 DATA 10,30,50,65,75
8030 DATA 2,10,5,18,14,30,25,40,
30,50
8035 DATA 5,25,10,45,35,65,55,80
,70,100
8100 DATA "1(2*sp)THE PLOUGH","2
(2*sp)THE HOPWOOD","3(2*sp)THE R
ED LION","4(2*sp)THE RAVEN","5(2
*sp)THE CROWN","6(2*sp)GOLDEN EA
GLE","7(2*sp)THE JUNCTION","8(2*
sp)HOPE & ANCHOR","9(2*sp)THE NA
G'S HEAD","10 DISTRACTIONS","11
THE FILIBUSTER","12 THE BOURNBRO
OK","13 THE GEORDIE","14 THE POW
ERHOUSE","15 THE POWDER KEG","16
THE COVEN","17 GOLDDIGGERS","18
J.B.'S","19 THE ROXY","20 'ENRY
'S"
8110 DATA "21 THE 100 CLUB","22
CLOGGERS CLUB","23 MOTHER'S","24 S
AXONWOOD","25 MOUNTMORE","26 VAL
HALLA","27 STEPMOTHER'S","28 MER
LIN'S COVE","29 THE MARQUEE","30
ROCK MACHINE","31 THE HIDEAWAY",
"32 THE MAYFAIR","33 OAKDEN","34
CHESFORD GRANGE","35 KINETIC C
IRCUS","36 YORK ART C'TRE","37 B
'HAM ART C'TRE","38 CHAPLIN'S","
39 MYRIAN","40 STORMWOOD"
8120 DATA "41 ASTON UNIV","42 B'
HAM UNIV","43 KEELE UNIV","44 WA
RWICK UNIV","45 SHENSTONE","46 N
EWMAN","47 SUMMERFIELD","48 WES
TFIELD","49 WESTHILL","50 TUDOR
GRANGE","51 DUDLEY POLY","52 L.S
.E.","53 U.E.A.","54 YORK UNIV",
"55 BATH UNIV","56 LANCHESTER","
57 MARJOHN","58 HULL UNIV","59 M
ADELEY","60 LOUGHBOROUGH","61 SA
LFORD UNIV","62 BRISTOL UNIV","6
3 B'HAM POLY","64 C.C.A.T.","65
TRENT POLY","66 WORCESTER","67 G
IRTON COLLEGE","68 STIRLING UNIV
","69 DURHAM UNIV","70 PRESTON P
OLY","71 NOTTS UNIV","72 CARDIFF
UNIV","73 SUSSEX UNIV","74 READ
ING UNIV","75 HATFIELD POLY","76
PLYMOUTH POLY"
8130 DATA "77 BEDFORD COLLEGE","
78 BRUNEL UNIV","79 N.STAFFS POL
Y","80 RUGBY C OF E"
8140 DATA "81 AYLESBURY FRIAR",
"82 B'HAM ODEON","83 BRIGHTON
PAV","84 IPSWICH GAUMONT","85
BRISTOL COLSTON","86 CARDIFF OD
EON","87 COVENTRY TH'TRE","88
DERBY ASSM RMS","89 EDIN USHER
HALL","90 GLASGOW APOLLO","91
EXETER CITY H","92 LEICS DE M H
ALL","93 L'POOL EMPIRE","94 TH
E ROUNDHOUSE","95 H'SMITH ODEON
","96 LONDON LYCEUM","97 LONDO
N DOMINION","98 QUEENS U B'FAST
","99 MALVERN W GDNS"
8150 DATA "100 MAN APOLLO","101
NEWCASTLE C H","102 NEW BINGLEY
H","103 WOLV CIVIC HALL","104 LE
EDS TOWN HALL","105 LOWESTOFT PA

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V","106 OXFORD APOLLO","107 DIGB
ETH CIVIC H","108 CAM CORN EXCH",
"109 N.E.C.","110 EDIN PLAYHOUS
E","111 DUNDEE CAIRD H","112 KIN
GS X CINEMA","113 HULL TOWN HALL
","114 SHEFFIELD C H","115 AYR C
ALEDONIAN","116 LEWISHAM ODEON",
"117 YORK MINSTER","118 MIDNIGHT
COURT","119 FAIRFIELD HALL","12
0 CREWE PAVILLION"
8160 DATA "121 PARIS","122 ZURIC
H","123 HAMBURG","124 NANCY","12
5 PORI","126 OSLO","127 STOCKHOL
M","128 COPENHAGEN","129 BERLIN",
"130 AMSTERDAM","131 BRUSSELS",
"132 OSTEND","133 ROTTERDAM","13
4 ANTWERP","135 LYON","136 WARSA
W","137 KOLN","138 BREMEN","139
LUXEMBURG","140 WILLISAU","141 L
UCERNE","142 MILAN","143 HELSINK
I","144 BUDAPEST","145 MUNICH",
"146 STUTTGART","147 NANTES","148
ROME","149 MADRID","150 MALMO"
8170 DATA "151 SAN FRANCISCO","1
52 BUFFALO","153 PHEONIX","154 B
OSTON","155 MINNEAPOLIS","156 PO
RTLAND","157 CINNCINATI","158 SA
LEM","159 TORONTO","160 LOS ANGE
LES","161 NEW ORLEANS","162 OMAH
A","163 DALLAS","164 SACRAMENTO",
"165 TULSA","166 SAN DIEGO","16
7 SEATTLE","168 SALT LAKE CITY",
"169 NEW YORK","170 BALTIMORE",
"171 DETROIT","172 PHILADELPHIA",
"173 ALBANY","174 MEMPHIS","175
ATLANTA","176 OSAKA","177 NAGOYA
","178 TOKYO","179 YOKOHAMA","18
0 NAGASAKI"
8200 DATA 0,7,0,2,3,5,3,8,7,1,1,
3,4,3,6,6,6,5,5,5,6,2,10,8,8,7,8
,6,10,7,6,10,3,1,8,3,6,0,2,7
8210 DATA 7,10,8,8,4,2,7,1,0,2
,8,6,7,8,5,1,6,2,3,5,10,9,8,4,0,
4,5,5,2,1,5,6,9,9,0,2,0,2,2
8220 DATA 9,8,6,2,6,3,5,2,7,7,2,
6,6,7,10,8,7,7,1,7,6,8,2,5,7,6,5
,8,10,2,2,10,0,1,2,0,10,10,1,0
8230 DATA 8,10,1,2,3,8,9,2,7,10,
8,2,9,2,4,5,0,6,7,1,7,10,1,7,8,6
,0,6,2,7
8240 DATA 10,8,1,0,2,7,1,5,8,10,
7,8,7,1,5,0,10,2,9,0,6,7,8,9,2,6
,1,4,3,7
8300 DATA 15,35,16,44,56,41,56,4
5,50,30,17,51,5,63,49,63,64,24,
70,13,92,14,46,60,33,25,40,21,75
,75,30,85,63,66,42,80,33,75,65,4
5
8310 DATA 70,95,45,60,30,75,20,4
2,78,80,90,50,75,57,42,80,60,85,
87,75,58,80,40,55,42,42,72,60,62
,70,95,45,90,50,60,45,72,40,82,9
0
8320 DATA 140,750,400,600,600,65
0,250,500,800,750,510,610,750,20
0,950,240,200,800,420,800,410,97
5,180,400,130,145,200,210,2000,6
00,1250,150,150,140,750,700,190,
350,600,250
8330 DATA 2750,2950,1800,1750,17
00,300,450,2800,475,2000,520,175
0,580,1600,375,1750,250,400,1700
,300,525,350,325,1725,1750,600,2
50,1600,1550,585
8340 DATA 5000,1000,4500,4000,52
5,700,3750,3800,4000,5750,780,12
00,3900,4200,675,4000,590,4000,4
200,570,1000,1230,1200,1000,3850
,6000,650,625,590,4590
8999 STOP
9880 SAVE "road" LINE 5
9881 VERIFY "road"
9882 STOP
9890 CLS : LET memory=(PEEK 2373
0+256*PEEK 23731-PEEK 23653-256*
PEEK 23654)
9891 PRINT AT 8,3;"MEMORY USED: "
;((48*1024)-memory)/1024)
9892 PRINT AT 10,3;"MEMORY FREE:
";memory/1024
9899 STOP

```


THE SWEET GAME



YOU SHOULD never have busted that fence. The park keeper is hopping mad, and the only way to placate him is to collect up the sweets in the park. Unfortunately you must do it in a given length of time or the park keeper will incinerate you with his regulation Parks and Recreation Dept laser gun.

The Sweet Game was written by Benjamin Regis of London and runs on the 16K Spectrum.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters, so please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout before typing in the program.

```
80 PAPER 7: BORDER 7: INK 0: CLS
90 GO SUB 9000
100 REM *** Instructions ***
110 PRINT AT 0,10;"Sweet Game"
120 PRINT AT 0,10; OVER 1; INK 2;"-----"
130 PRINT ""(2*sp)The aim of the Sweet Game is(2*sp)to collect 20 sweets(;" INK 2;"E"; INK 0;" ) for the park keeper to repay him for the fence that you broke. One problem is that the park keeper is(6*sp)giving you a limited time to(4*sp)collect them. Another problem is that when you pick up a sweet(3*sp)you leave a stick
```


y mess behind(2*sp)(C). If you should get stuck in it then a few seconds of your(3*sp)time is taken to get out of it."

```
140 PRINT INK 2;"(2*sp)If you should fail to collect all 20 sweets the park keeper(3*sp)will shoot you with his laser."; INK 1;"Keys - Cursor Keys (5,6,7&8)"
```

```
150 PRINT ' INK 3;"GOOD LUCK!"
160 PRINT#1;AT 1,0;"Press any key to continue": PAUSE 0: CLS
170 GO SUB 8000
180 GO SUB 7000
190 REM *** Main Loop ***
200 IF INKEY$="5" AND b>1 THEN PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET b=b-1
210 IF INKEY$="6" AND a<20 THEN PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET a=a+1
220 IF INKEY$="7" AND a>2 THEN PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET a=a-1
230 IF INKEY$="8" AND b<30 THEN PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET b=b+1
240 PRINT AT a,b; INK 1;"D"
250 IF a$(a,b)="C" THEN GO SUB 6000
260 IF a$(a,b)="E" THEN GO SUB 5000: GO SUB 8040
270 PRINT AT 0,0;"Score(sp)": score
280 IF score=20 THEN GO SUB 3000
290 LET time=time-1 AND time<>0: PRINT AT 0,17;"Time(sp)":time;"(2*sp)"
300 IF time=0 THEN GO TO 4000
310 GO TO 200
3000 REM *** End of Sheet ***
3010 FOR r=1 TO 2: FOR s=-20 TO 40: BEEP .01,s: NEXT s
3020 FOR s=-40 TO -20 STEP -1: BEEP .01,s: NEXT s
3030 FOR s=1 TO 100: NEXT s: CLS
```

```
3040 PRINT AT 2,10; INK 2;"WELL DONE!"
3050 BEEP .1,10
3060 PRINT INK 3""(sp)You have successfully managed(3*sp)to collect 20 sweets for the(12*sp)park keeper"
3070 FOR s=1 TO 300: NEXT s
3080 IF t<=u+50 THEN GO TO 3500
3090 PRINT INK 1;"(5*sp)The park keeper is not(6*sp)satisfied and you are going to(4*sp)have to collect another 20(5*sp)sweets for him.This time you(10*sp)have less time."
3100 BEEP .5,-20
3110 LET t=t-50: LET time=t
3120 LET score=0
3130 PRINT#1;AT 1,0;"Press any key to continue": PAUSE 0: CLS: GO SUB 8000: RETURN
3500 REM *** Win Routine ***
3510 FOR s=1 TO 200: NEXT s: FOR s=1 TO 20: PAPER INT (RND*8): CLS: BORDER INT (RND*8): BEEP .01,INT (RND*100)-40: NEXT s: PAPER 7: BORDER 7: CLS
3520 PRINT INK 2;AT 5,0;"(sp)THE PARK KEEPER IS SATISFIED"; INK 1""(6*sp)YOU ARE FREE TO GO"
3530 INPUT "Another go ? (y/n)(sp)":b$
3540 IF b$="Y" OR b$="y" THEN RUN
3550 STOP
4000 REM *** Laser Routine ***
4010 FOR l=20 TO a+1 STEP -1: PRINT AT l,b; INK RND*7;"!": BEEP .02,60: NEXT l
4020 FOR m=1 TO 5: FOR l=6 TO 0 STEP -1: PRINT AT a,b; INK 1;"D": PRINT AT 3,9; INK 1;"YOU ARE DEAD": BEEP .1,(1*10)-20: NEXT l: NEXT m
4030 INPUT "Another go ? (y/n)(sp)":b$
4040 IF b$="Y" OR b$="y" THEN RUN
4050 STOP
5000 REM *** Collect Sweet ***
5010 LET score=score+1
5020 LET a$(a+1,b)="C": PRINT AT a+1,b;"C"
5030 LET a$(a,b)="(sp)"
5040 BEEP .1,10
5050 RETURN
6000 REM *** Sticky mess ***
6010 BEEP .5,-20: FOR c=1 TO 20: LET time=time-1: PRINT AT 0,17;"Time(sp)":time;"(2*sp)": NEXT c
6020 LET a$(a,b)="(sp)"
6030 RETURN
7000 REM *** Variables ***
7010 LET a=11: LET b=15
7020 LET score=0
7030 INPUT "Skill level ? (1-10, 1-hard)":u: IF u>10 OR u<1 THEN GO TO 7030
7040 LET u=(u*50)+200
7050 LET time=u+150: LET t=time
7060 RETURN
8000 REM *** Set-up screen ***
8010 DIM a$(22,32)
8020 FOR x=0 TO 31: PRINT INK 1;AT 1,x;"a";AT 21,x;"a": NEXT x
8030 FOR x=1 TO 21: PRINT INK 1;AT x,0;"a";AT x,31;"a": NEXT x
8040 LET p=INT (RND*19)+2: LET q=INT (RND*30)+1
8050 LET a$(p,q)="E": PRINT AT p,q; INK 2;"E"
8060 INK 0
8070 RETURN
9000 REM *** Graphics ***
9010 FOR y=USR "a" TO USR "d"+7
9020 READ z: POKE y,z: NEXT y
9030 DATA 36,36,255,36,36,255,36,36
9040 DATA 24,60,126,255,255,126,60,24
9050 DATA 170,85,170,85,170,85,170,85
9060 DATA 56,56,16,255,56,56,68,130
9070 RETURN
```


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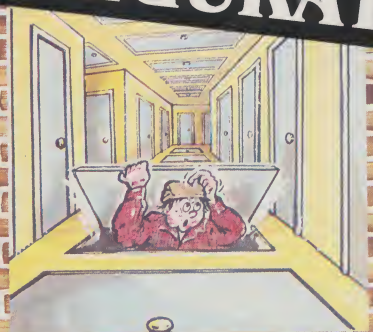
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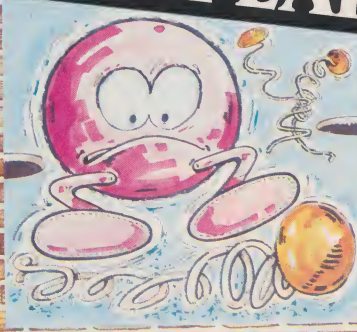


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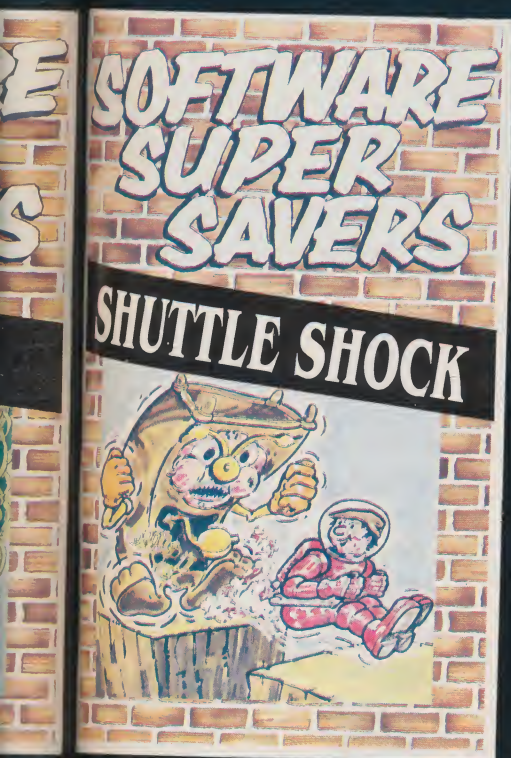


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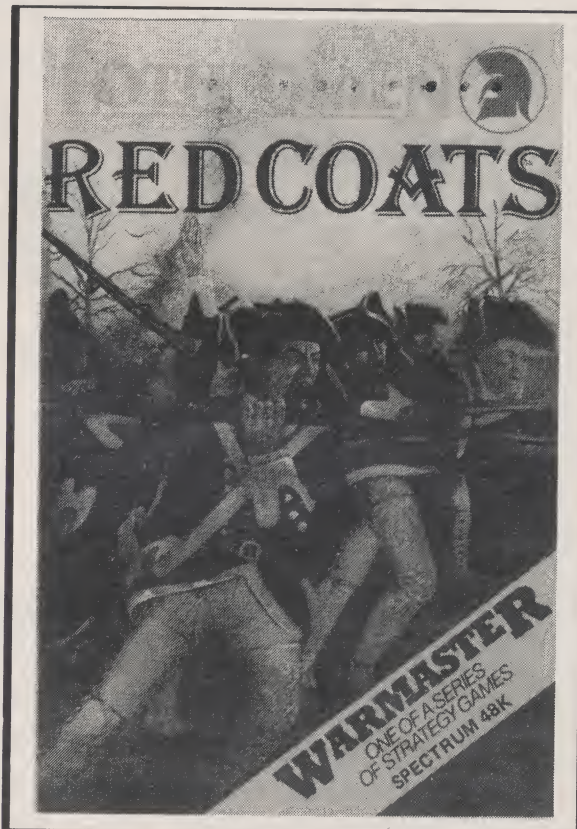
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IF THE SPECTRUM was pitched against the BBC Micro for serious applications, it would not be at all surprising if it came out on top amongst programmers. That is almost entirely due to the efforts of one small software company up in Bedfordshire, Hisoft.

The company's release of its acclaimed Pascal compiler over a year ago, coupled with the simultaneous release of its machine code development system Devpac, has gained it and the Spectrum a higher credibility factor than Sinclair Research could ever manage by itself.

Now the company has released another compiler, this time for the language C. C is widely regarded as the language of the future, not least because of its unique position as the language in which Unix™ is written. Unix is now the de facto standard operating system for any 16-bit computer, with versions even available for the 68000 extended BBC Micro and soon the QL.

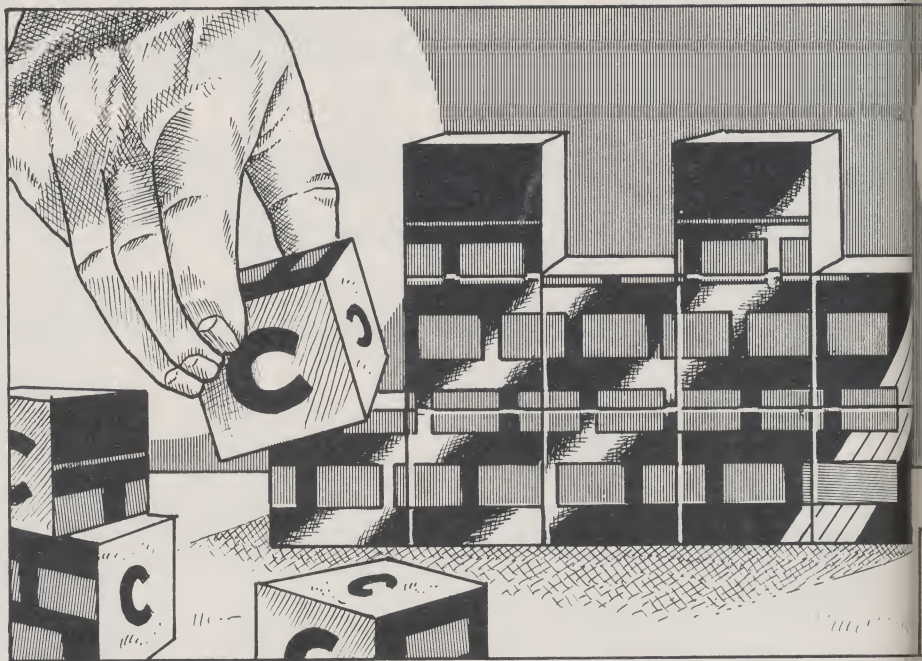
C is integral to all that, gaining a reputation as the systems language most likely to succeed. It has two main advantages over other languages like Basic and Pascal: First, C is standard, so programs are in practice portable — as opposed to the theoretical portability of Pascal and the mess created by the myriad versions of Basic. Second, it is block structured and far less formal than rivals of the Pascal ilk.

Two long words here, both of which need definition. A portable language is one which has exactly the same form on all machines, which means a program written in language X on machine Y will run without alteration on another machine Z that also supports language X. Only C gets truly close to that level of portability.

A block structured language is one in which each task in a program is broken down into small, easily manageable modules. That type of programming is much in vogue, with Pascal being the most shouted-about progenitor. The trend probably started with the BCPL language, developed by Dr Martin Richards in Cambridge, but Pascal and C soon became more widely used.

BCPL is in fact the grandfather of C, as two Americans, Dennis Ritchie and Brian Kernighan, took the offspring of BCPL — called B — and came up with C. The only book worth reading on C was written by those two Americans, and is called *The C Programming Language* published by Prentiss Hall and costing £16.95.

So the Spectrum now provides more opportunity for the budding systems



A language for the future

Adam Denning lays bare the mysteries of C, a new language for the Spectrum which is faster than Forth and simpler than Pascal.

programmer than any other home micro widely available. The provision of C gives distinct advantages to the Spectrum owner, as it is compiled into Z80 machine code and therefore runs faster than most other languages available — it beats the hell out of Forth.

Moreover, anyone contemplating a career in computing is going to need to know about the language, and this is the cheapest option there is. The average programmer will also find it useful as it is easier to use than Pascal and easier to learn. It can do almost everything which Spectrum Basic can do without any of the disadvantages.

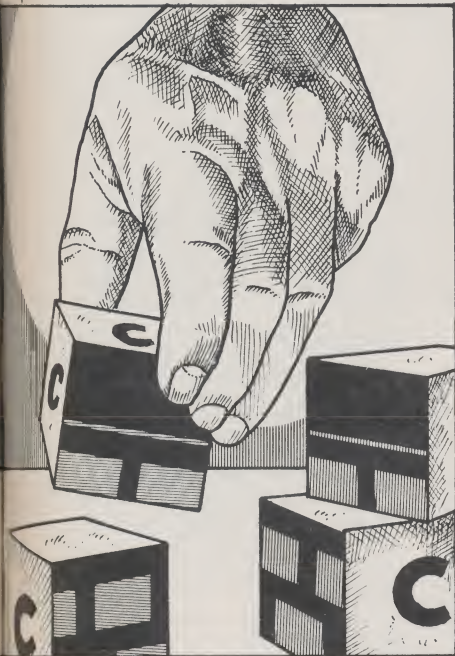
Hisoft C is supplied on a cassette, containing everything — the compiler, the editor, the standard input/output header and a library of useful system routines. Once loaded the program asks if you wish to save the compiler and editor to microdrive. That follows Hisoft philosophy of making all its products microdrive compatible, so that a user equipped with those devices need never be hampered by having to return to cassette tapes again.

The editor supplied as an integral

part of the compiler is the standard Hisoft line editor used on all its source code based products, but programs can be written without recourse to the editor once you are familiar with both C and the implementation. The editor is invoked by pressing CAPS SHIFT and 1, i.e. EDIT, simultaneously, and from thereon all functions are standard until the c commnd is used to return to the C compiler.

C programs created that way can be saved to and loaded from tape or microdrive, and of course any section of saved source can be included in a compilation with the **#include** directive. That is standard practice in C compilers as it is usual for at least one header file containing all the **#define** definitions and standard i/o to be included in the source file.

Hisoft C has something else which, as far as we know, is unique — programs can be entered directly into the compiler just by typing them in, and subsequently invoked either by telling the machine that the end of the source file has been reached — by pressing SYMBOL SHIFT i — or by going into **direct** mode with **#direct+** and typing



a suitable invocation such as:

```
main();
```

That direct mode also means that individual functions can be tested as stand alone programs, or quick calculations can be done. For instance, you might want to know the hexadecimal equivalent of 23456. All you have to do (assuming you are in direct mode) is type:

```
printf("%x/n", 23456);
```

and your answer will be printed out. You can leave direct mode by typing #direct-.

Before we look at some C programs and discuss how to use the language, we must look at some of the imperfections of the current version of Hisoft C. The most noticeable of those is that invocation of a non-existent function resets the machine, losing the compiler and returning to Basic.

The **float** type is also missing, which means that floating point numbers cannot be operated on. Oddly, the **scanf** function — the C equivalent of INPUT — is not here either, but it is fairly simple to write the parts of the function that you require.

Those are really the shortcomings worth mentioning, and even those will not be there for long. Hisoft will give a free update to purchasers of the current version of the compiler, and all the facilities mentioned as lacking are going to be included at some stage.

A program consists of a number of functions, of which one must be called **main**. That is where execution begins when the program is run. Of course, Hisoft's direct mode obviates the need for that, but it is best to follow the standard language definition so that lat-

er program development on other machines will not be hindered by silly mistakes.

The program in Figure 1 converts any number between 0 and 65535 into its hexadecimal and binary equivalents — a bit simple, perhaps, but then how many of us have programmed in C on the Spectrum before?

The program is simpler than it looks, but introduces a lot of C's more interesting properties. It was very hurriedly written, so it is by no means the best example of C programming.

The first thing we do in all three functions is to declare our variables, so that **main** has two integer variables and a character string (an array) 16 characters long, **readn** has three integers and a smaller string array and **binary** has two integers.

The only function that returns a result is **readn**, and the type of that result is indicated by declaring the function itself as having a type — integer in this case.

We also see that **binary** has two parameters passed to it. We have to tell it what type those parameters are, which is the purpose of the two lines after the function declaration.

The body of the program is controlled by **main**. It first prints a prompt and then uses our **readn** function to read in a decimal number, passing the integer value to the variable **n**. The **binary** function is then called to convert this into a 16 character binary string in the array **b**, and then the answers are printed out. The **printf** function can handle the printing of numbers in hex, but not binary, so we then use a for loop to print out the 16 digits of **b** in reverse order.

Notice the structure of the 'for loop' — the start value first, then the end condition and finally the increment. The ++ here is just the C way of incrementing.

As carriage returns and various other 'non-printing' characters are rather hard to represent on screen, C uses the backlash (\) as an escape character, so that various symbols after the slash are converted to various characters. Thus, \n is a new line character.

The **readn** function is a very simple method of reading in a number from the keyboard, and has two distinct disadvantages. It can only handle digits, so no sign must be included, and if you type in more digits than there are places in the **s** array, you will crash the computer. It is, however, quite fast. It simply reads in each digit from the

```
main() /* convert unsigned decimal
to hex and binary */
{
    int n;
    char b[16];
    printf("Give me a number: ");
    n=readn();
    binary(n,b);
    printf("\nThis is %x in hex and/n",n);
    for (i=0;i<16; ++i)
        putchar(b[15-i]);
    printf("\n in binary/n");
}

int readn()
{
    char s[5];
    int i,c,total;
    i=0;
    while ((c=getchar()) != '\n')
        s[i++] = c;
    total=0;
    for (c=0; c<i; ++c)
        total=total*10+s[c]-'0';
    return total;
}

binary(num,digits)
int num;
char digits[];
{
    int i,c;
    for (i=15; i>=0; --i)
    {
        c=num & 1 << i;
        if (c==0)
            digits[i]='0';
        else
            digits[i]='1';
    }
}
```

Figure 1

keyboard at a time, using the **getchar** function until it finds a new line character. The != symbol means 'not equal to'.

The resulting string is then converted to decimal by taking each digit and progressively adding into ten times the total — a very standard method. That is then returned as the result.

A 'for loop' is also used by **binary**, this time decrementing from 15 to 0 to access each element of the array in reverse order. We use bitwise ANDing (the & operator) on powers of two to generate each binary digit. Each power of two is formed by shifting one left the requisite number of places (the << operator — pure BCPL).

That is by no means the extent of C's usefulness, and its reputation for systems programming is well founded but difficult to demonstrate briefly. It is the most welcome addition to the Spectrum catalogue since Sinclair introduced the Microdrives, and at the price cannot be missed. Hisoft is at: 180 High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. Tel. 0582 696421.

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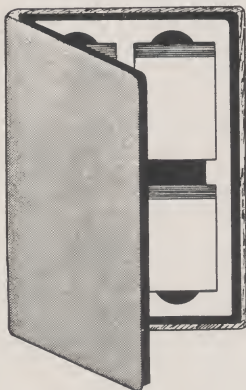
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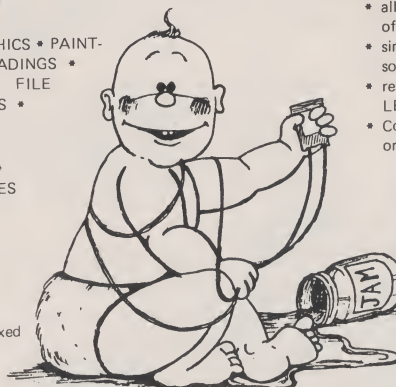
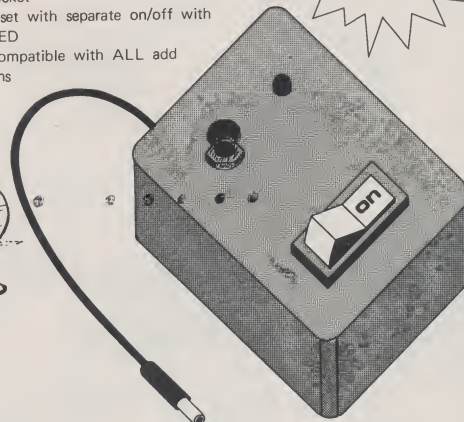
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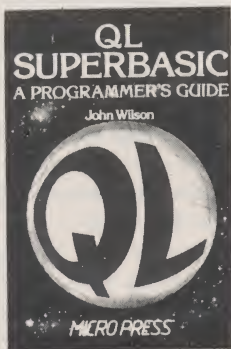
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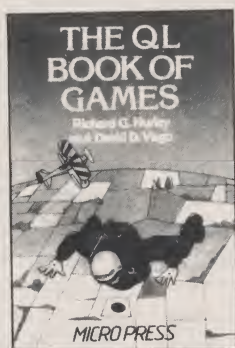
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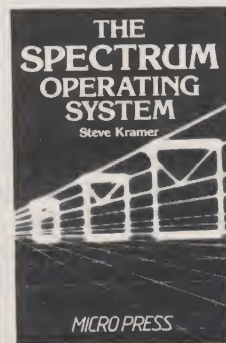
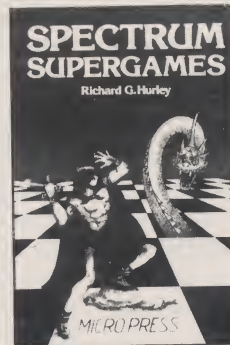


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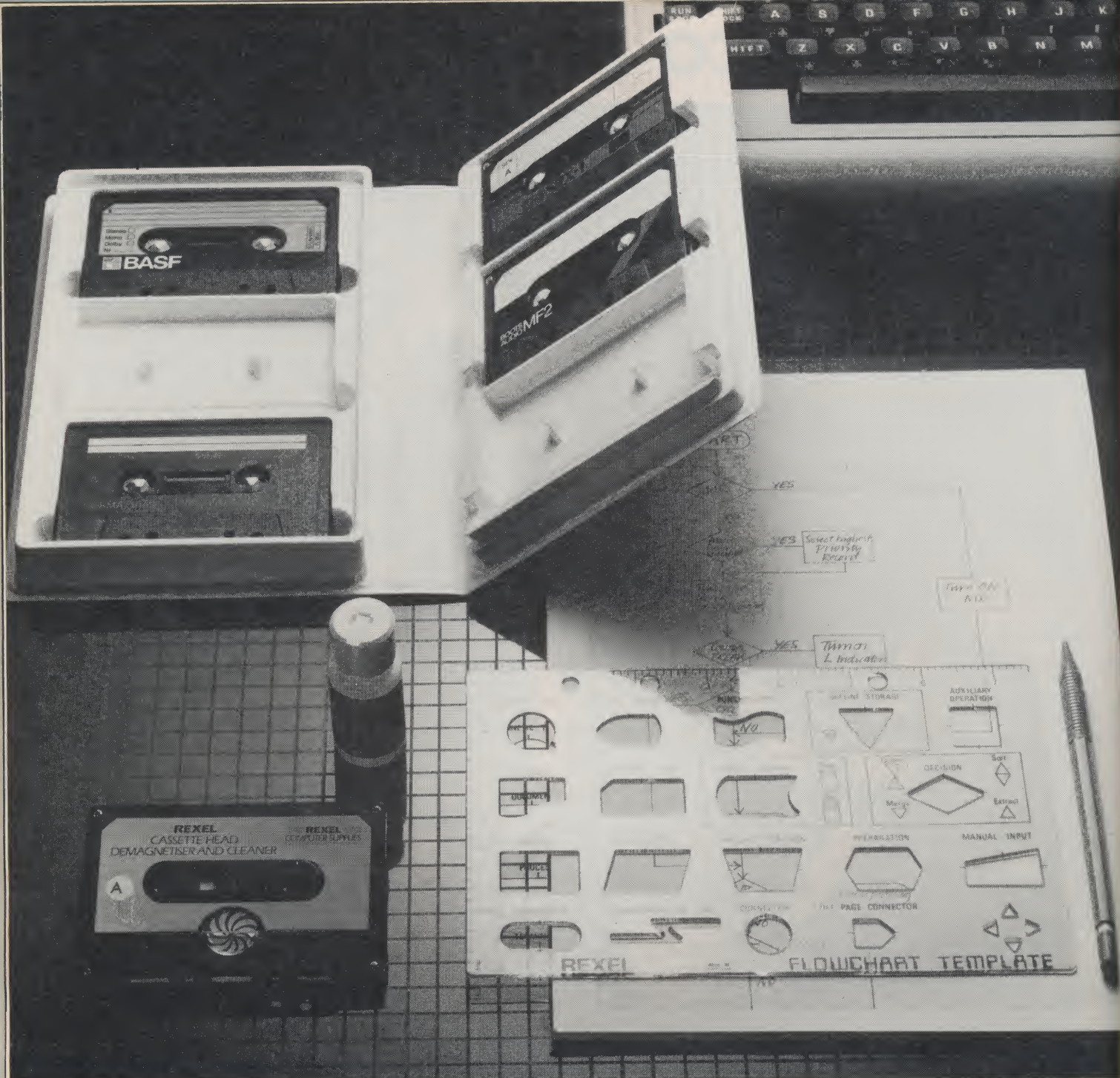


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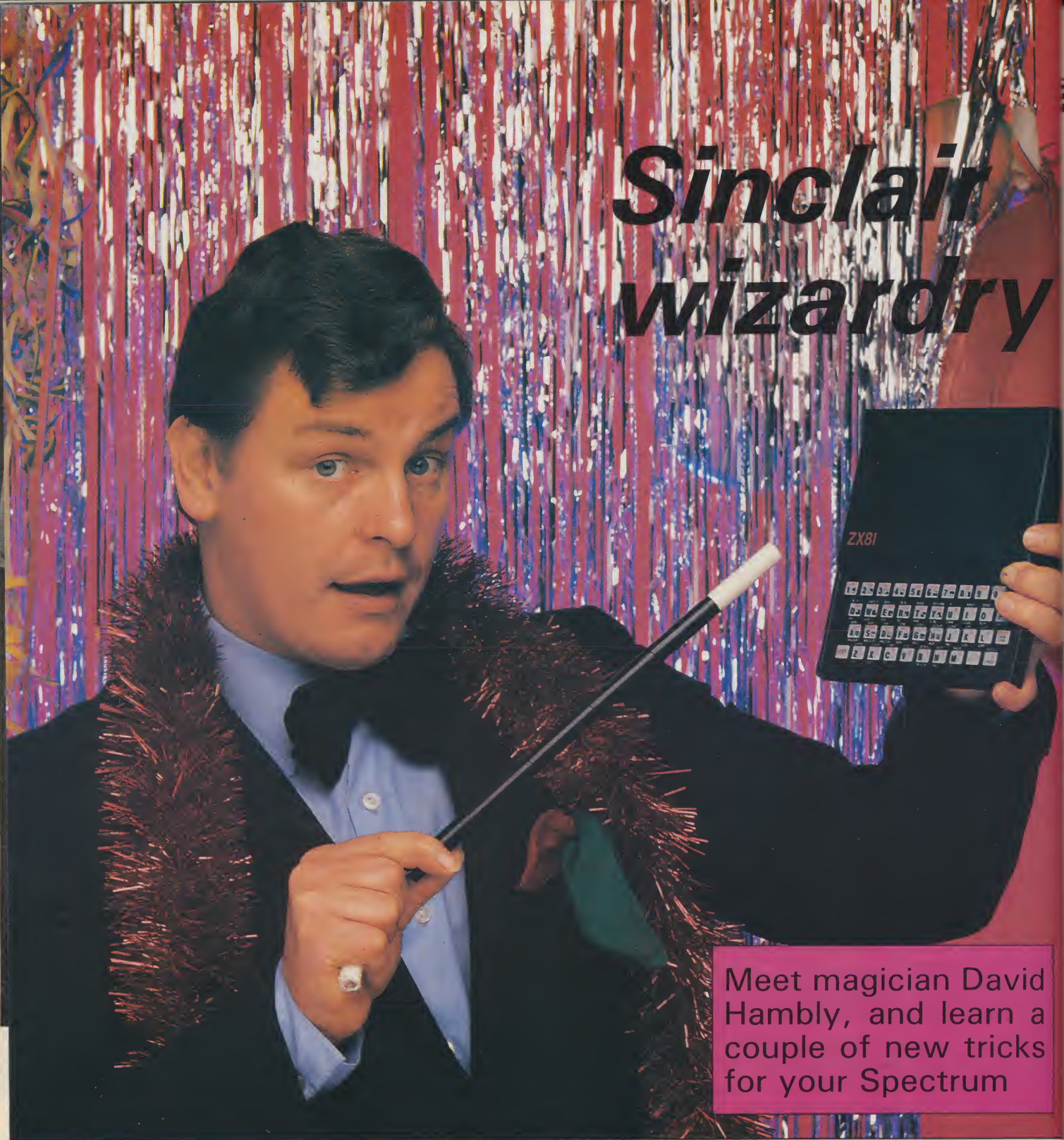
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Sinclair wizardry

A man with dark hair and a surprised expression is wearing a black suit with a thick, shiny tinsel collar. He holds a black Sinclair ZX81 computer in his left hand and a black wand with a white tip in his right hand. The background is a dense, colorful tinsel curtain. The text 'Sinclair wizardry' is written in a large, bold, black font in the upper right corner. A pink box with white text is in the lower right corner.

Meet magician David Hambly, and learn a couple of new tricks for your Spectrum

THE FIRST TIME you saw a home computer put through its paces you may have felt there was something magical about the machine. David Hambly goes a step further than that. He performs a magic act using the Spectrum.

David's career in magic began over twenty years ago, when he was ten years old, and took up conjuring as a hobby. Since then he has become a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, and has performed throughout Europe as a cabaret artist and close-up magician. Recently he has appeared on television in *Video and Chips* and *Me*

and *My Micro*.

One of the more unusual bookings he had was to perform an illusion act from a boxing ring, to warm up the audience before a full-contact karate competition.

Close-up magic is that branch dealing with the manipulation of small objects such as cards or coins, requiring great skill and sleight of hand to accomplish. He says manipulation is going out of fashion among young magicians, who prefer to concentrate on the spectacular self-working tricks involving mechanical apparatus.

David first became familiar with computers while working for an elec-

tronics company which used what David describes as a temperamental Digital PDP/8. Although he wanted to buy a Commodore Pet, it was not until Sinclair released the ZX-81 that David was able to afford his own machine. His initial use for the machine was to handle accounts and other aspects of his magic career.

Give a magician any sort of object, and sooner or later he will start to develop a magic trick using it. The ZX-81 was no exception. Before long David was incorporating effects using the computer into his acts. As his skill at programming grew, so did the complexity

of the magic he was able to perform, although David is the first to admit that he is no machine-code wizard. "I'm sure there are better ways of writing the program," he says. "I'm just satisfied if it works."

His most complicated program, which he has surrounded with safeguards against copying, actually devises its own tricks, some of which have been published in specialist magic magazines. David felt the next step was to collect all the notes he had made and write a book, the first ever on the subject, entitled *Computer Magic*.

David says he regrets now some of the secrets he revealed in the book. "There are two techniques in particular I wish I hadn't put in," he says. "They're far too good to use in a book." If you want to learn those secrets you will have to buy David's book, but in the meantime, here are two of David's programs especially for Sinclair User readers.

Please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout before typing in the listings.

Find the Rabbit, for the 16K Spectrum, is based on the very well known effect called Three Card Monte, also known as Find the Lady.

Load the program and three cards will be displayed on the screen, face up, two showing a top hat, while the third shows a rabbit. After a key is pressed, the cards are seen face down. Your audience must now guess where the rabbit is.

As an additional trick stick a piece of blank paper onto an old playing card. Draw a rabbit on it and place it in your pocket. At any time during your performance, press key 4. That, as before, will display three cards, face down. Have one of the cards chosen by a friend, and stand by for the Big Surprise.

Displayed will be three cards face up, but now showing three top hats and not two. Explain that the rabbit has nearly vanished and then produce the card from your pocket, to reveal the rabbit.

In Telepathic Computer the computer is able to identify a card which has been selected from a shuffled deck.

First of all, remove all of the following cards from the deck: A-2-3-4-5-6-7 of Spades; 8-9-10-J-Q-K of Hearts; A-2-3-4-5-6 of Clubs; and 7-8-9-10-J-Q-K of Diamonds. Shuffle those 26 cards together, so that they are well mixed.

With the remainder of the pack, consisting of 26 cards and two Jokers, remove the Jokers and place them on

Find the rabbit

```

1 BORDER 3: PAPER 7: INK 0: C
LS
5 PRINT INK 1;AT 10,8;"THREE
CARD MONTE."; INK 3;AT 12,8;"(F
IND THE RABBIT)"; INK 0;AT 21,0;
Sheer Magic Software. 1984."
10 PAUSE 400
15 CLS
16 PRINT TAB 14; PAPER 7; BRIG
HT 1; INK 2; FLASH 1;"NOTE"
20 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT PAPE
R 1; INK 7;"The(2*sp)following(2
*sp)program(2*sp)has(4*sp)been d
esigned(2*sp)for entertainmentpu
rposes only."
25 GO SUB 500: GO SUB 1000
30 PAUSE 300: CLS
35 GO SUB 2000
40 LET a=INT ((RND*3)+1)
50 BORDER 6
60 LET j=4
70 FOR i=6 TO 14
80 PRINT PAPER 7; INK 2;AT i,
j;"(5*a,5*sp,5*a,5*sp,5*a)"
90 NEXT i
100 PRINT INK 1; FLASH 1;AT 15
,6;"1";AT 15,16;"2";AT 15,26;"3"
115 PRINT INK 3;AT 17,0;"FIND
THE RABBIT."; INK 1;"CHOOSE A C
ARD. 1 2 OR 3"
120 PAUSE 0
125 LET A$=INKEY$
140 IF A$="1" AND 1=A THEN GO
TO 200
143 IF A$="2" AND 2=A THEN GO
TO 200
145 IF A$="3" AND 3=A THEN GO
TO 200
148 IF A$="4" THEN GO TO 3000
150 GO SUB 3000
155 POKE 23609,255
160 FOR i=1 TO 20
165 BEEP .01,-10+i
170 NEXT i
180 GO TO 30
200 PRINT INK 4; FLASH 1;"YES-
YOU WIN."; FLASH 0; INK 0;"HAVE
ANOTHER GO."
250 LET D=4: LET E=14: LET F=24
255 FOR I=6 TO 14
260 IF A$="1" THEN GO TO 300
270 IF A$="2" THEN GO TO 350
280 IF A$="3" THEN GO TO 400
300 PRINT PAPER 5;AT I,D;"
"
302 PRINT INK 0;AT 8,5;"KLM";A
T 9,5;"NOP";AT 10,5;"QRS";AT 11,
5;"(sp)T(sp)";AT 13,4; INK 2; IN
VERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
305 NEXT I
310 FOR i=1 TO 20
320 BEEP .015,RND*40
330 NEXT i
340 PAUSE 100: GO TO 30
350 PRINT PAPER 5;AT I,E;"(5*s
p)"
353 PRINT INK 0;AT 8,15;"KLM";
AT 9,15;"NOP";AT 10,15;"QRS";AT
11,15;"(sp)T(sp)";AT 13,14; INK
2; INVERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
355 NEXT I
360 FOR i=1 TO 20
370 BEEP .015,RND*40
380 NEXT i
390 PAUSE 100: GO TO 30
400 PRINT PAPER 5;AT I,F;"(5*s
p)"
403 PRINT INK 0;AT 8,25;"KLM";
AT 9,25;"NOP";AT 10,25;"QRS";AT
11,25;"T";AT 13,24; INK 2; INV
ERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
405 NEXT I
410 FOR i=1 TO 20
420 BEEP .015,RND*40
430 NEXT i
440 PAUSE 100: GO TO 30
500 FOR a=USR "a" TO USR "a"+7

```

```

510 READ user: POKE a,user
520 NEXT a: RETURN
550 DATA 204,204,51,51,204,204,
51,51
1000 RESTORE 1100: FOR a=USR "E"
TO USR "I"+7
1010 READ user: POKE a,user
1020 NEXT a: RETURN
1100 DATA 0,15,48,71,207,96,31,7
1110 DATA 0,255,0,255,255,0,255,
255
1120 DATA 0,240,48,198,195,2,255
,252
1130 DATA 4,5,5,5,5,5,5,5
1140 DATA 0,249,249,249,249,249,
249,249
1150 DATA 16,240,240,240,240,240
,240,240
1160 DATA 5,5,5,5,5,3,1,0
1170 DATA 249,249,249,249,249,23
3,255,0
1180 DATA 240,240,240,240,240,22
4,192,0
1200 DATA 4,12,18,18,18,17,17,17
1210 DATA 0,1,1,1,2,2,2,4
1220 DATA 172,32,32,96,160,160,1
60,32
1230 DATA 17,9,8,4,4,5,5,11
1240 DATA 5,249,0,0,198,41,41,23
9
1250 DATA 64,64,128,128,128,0,64
,64
1260 DATA 16,16,34,35,34,8,4,3
1270 DATA 48,48,73,255,121,48,0,
128
1280 DATA 64,64,64,32,32,32,64,1
28
1290 DATA 65,62,0,0,0,0,0,0
2000 PAUSE 100: CLS
2005 LET j=4: FOR i=6 TO 14
2010 PRINT INK 5;AT i,j;"(5*ig8
,5*sp,5*ig8,5*sp,5*ig8)"
2020 NEXT i
2100 PRINT INK 0;AT 8,5;"BCD";A
T 9,5;"EFG";AT 10,5;"HIJ";AT 11,
5; INK 2; INVERSE 1;"TOP";AT 13,
5;"HAT": INVERSE 0
2110 PRINT INK 0;AT 8,15;"BCD";
AT 9,15;"EFG";AT 10,15;"HIJ";AT
11,15; INK 2; INVERSE 1;"TOP";AT
13,15;"HAT": INVERSE 0
2120 PRINT INK 0;AT 8,25;"KLM";
AT 9,25;"NOP";AT 10,25;"QRS";AT
11,25;"(sp)T(sp)";AT 13,24; INK
2; INVERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
2150 PAUSE 100
2200 RETURN
3000 IF a$="1" OR A$="4" THEN P
RINT AT 6,4; INK 5;"(5*ig8)";AT
7,4;"(5*ig8)";AT 8,4;"(ig8)"; IN
K 0;"BCD"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 9,4;
"(ig8)"; INK 0;"EFG"; INK 5;"(ig
8)";AT 10,4;"(ig8)"; INK 0;"HIJ"
; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 11,4;"(5*ig8)
";AT 12,4;"(5*ig8)";AT 13,4;"(5*
ig8)";AT 14,4;"(5*ig8)"
3010 IF a$="2" OR A$="4" THEN P
RINT AT 6,14; INK 5;"(5*ig8)";AT
7,14;"(5*ig8)";AT 8,14;"(ig8)";
INK 0;"BCD"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 9
,14;"(ig8)"; INK 0;"EFG"; INK 5;
"(ig8)";AT 10,14;"(ig8)"; INK 0;
"HIJ"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 11,14;"(
5*ig8)";AT 12,14;"(5*ig8)";AT 13
,14;"(5*ig8)";AT 14,14;"(5*ig8)"
3020 IF a$="3" OR A$="4" THEN P
RINT AT 6,24; INK 5;"(5*ig8)";AT
7,24;"(5*ig8)";AT 8,24;"(ig8)";
INK 0;"BCD"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 9
,24;"(ig8)"; INK 0;"EFG"; INK 5;
"(ig8)";AT 10,24;"(ig8)"; INK 0;
"HIJ"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 11,24;"(
5*ig8)";AT 12,24;"(5*ig8)";AT 13
,24;"(5*ig8)";AT 14,24;"(5*ig8)"
3050 PRINT INK 2; FLASH 1;AT 20
,0;"WRONG TRY AGAIN"
3060 IF A$="4" THEN PRINT AT 20
,0;"> HE HAS VANISHED <"
3070 RETURN

```

continued on page 148